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218 ea

## R.S.C. A8 ULTRA LINEAR 12 WATT AMPLIFIER

NEW 1956 Model High-Fidelity, PushFutl Amplifier with '. Built-in', Tone Control, Pre-amp stages. High sensitivity, includes 5 valves ( 807 outputs). Higi cuality sectionally wound output trans. former, specially designed for Ultra linear operation, and reliable smajl rendensers of current manufacture: INDIVIDUAL CONTROIS FOR BASS AND TREBLE " Lift" and "Cut." Frequency response, is db. $30-30,000 \mathrm{c}$ sink negative feedback loops. Hum level
71 db. down. ONLY 70 millivolts INPl 71 db. down. ONLY 70 millivolts INPl T required for FULL OUTPUT, Suitable lor use with all makes and types of pickCop and pactically all microphonss C'omparable with the very best designs.
 lovi-101, IVINE RECOKDSKFO MENBS INSTRE - U U dititirs, etc orrPrT sockiti with plug provides 300 V .20 mA . and 6.3 1.5 a For supply or a 1 A ADIU FEEDEI: mains $200-230-250$ sizox. 12-9-7in, For A.C. mains 200-230-259 v. 50 c cs. Outputs for 3 an l 15 ohm speakers, Kit is complete to last nut. Chassis is fully punched, Full distructions and point-to-point witing diagrams scoplied. Unapproachable value at eylisi-, or factory built 45:- extra. Carrage 11

FOUER STAGE RABIO FEEDER (NrT. Design of a High-Fidelity Tune Unit T.R.F. L. \& M. Wave. Full decoup rejuired from main amplifier. Three valves and low distortion Germanium ctiode detector. Flat-topped response characteristic. Loaded tariable-Mu controled H.F. stages crans ond diabras. parts lists aid inustration §o. Total buildins cost, £3 15:-
RLALITE SUPERHEG FEEDRIR Wirinr Diagram instructions. (Includin simple alisnment procedure), parts list fui illustration. 26. Delayed A.V.C. Gram. pasition on wavechange switch. l'ower supyy required $250 \mathrm{v} .15 \mathrm{~mA} ., 6.3 \mathrm{v}$ 1 amp. Espacially sultable for use with finy of our ampliners, or any other high quality unit. Total cost of all parts £4 15 - , Descriptive leahet, 6 d .
 GHAVGilif ischo. Current Model. Bran 1 n 3 w , cartoned. Provision for Lakin; 10 records. Fitted High-Fidelity turnover pick-up head with dual sapphire point stylus for Standard or Lons-playing \&8.185. Carr. 5/6. Or deposit 3 gns. and sia fortnightly payments of 1 km .
IHEFIANTIRECORIDPLAYING ENITS Tuintable for standard 10 and 12 in T8 r.p.m. records (fitted auto-stop) and hig) impedance magnetic pick-up, motin ted in attractive polished walnut finlsh drawer-type cabinet. Fxceptional valthe at $\mathrm{e5}$ 17/6, plus 7.6 carr
RAK.R, MONARCH 3-NPEED MIXER AITOCIAANGER. For standard 200-250 3 speeds. Plays Ten mixed 7 in . 10 in speeas. Plays ten mixed rin.. 10 in and 121 . records. Separate sapphire styl ri' uystal pick-up, Mininum basebear Brand new, cartoned, at ex 15 -, carr. 3 f

WNENET VENEELEED ABANETS (Ex. leading manufacturers Table Radio gram Cabinets designed for above B.s.R. Changers. Brand new, catoned. Only \& 196. (arr. : 6.

3-4 W.NTV QL AlITV MWPIFIER Designed for usc with B.S.K. or Garrale Autochanger. Fitted separate Bass and with h, Latest type B, T.A. valves heed For $200-250$ t. A.C. mains. Ready for nse Onts £3186. carr, 30.
 Goodmast, Suitable for above. 19 6.

carruing handles can be supplied for 1.5. Additional input sorket with anso ciate Vol. Control so that two different Inputs such as cram and "MHe Mr provided lor $13 /$ e extra.
Tlill vis on assembled two invut model. DNidsit $25: 6$ and nine monthly pay menls 22'4.
IIGIL-FIIEI,ITV MIMROPHONE and SPEAKIERS in stock. Keen cash prices or $H, P$, terms if supplied with amplitier.

une whit the latent high-fidelity pirk-ha beatis, in aldition to all other tymes of pick-aps and practieally all mibs Cobrate basis and Trebte (ontrole are orovided. These give fall lontr-playing record equalisation. IIum lever is negifeible being 71 dh. down. 15 (lts. of nergatbe fecduack is ubed. 11. T. et 300 V. $25 \mathrm{~m} . \mathrm{A}$. and L.'T. of 6.3 v. 1.5 at. asalable for the supply of a ranmo Fecter Cnit, or Tape beck breampifier. For A.c. mains input of $200-230-$ 2500.00 dis. Chassis is not allve. Kin is complete in every delatiandinchudes ulls punched chassis (With lyaseplate) with ereen "rackof Romish and point (a-point wir.ng ciagramn amt intrachlons. Exceptional valme a only es 15:- or assembled ready for ase 25 - extra, plus 36 cari.
 DECh AMPIIFIER, For ALL Tape Decks with High impedance, Playback Truvos etr. (Unit can now terady for be supplied for use with latest se $\mathbf{0 N I}$. Collaro Tape Transcriptor refer to 2A1C.) Fol A.C Mains: 230-250 v. 50 c.ecs. 11 ens. Positive compensated identification of ecorcing tevel by Magic eyc. Recording matic toualisation or $3 i \mathrm{in}$. per sec. Automatic rqualisation at the turn of a knob. $5(1)-11.009$ c.p.s. Negative feed-back equal sation Minimum microplony and hum High rutput with completely effective rasure and distortionless reproduction sensititity is 15 millivolts so that any kind of crystrl micronhone is suitable oniv 2 millivolts minimum outputione atile trom Hecordine head Provision is mide for feeding a $P$. A. amplifier. Unit can also be ased as a gram-amplifier requirius
 rated laffet bd.
 ImpeduLce magnetic type. Only 31 a.
Brand New,

## R.S.C. 30 WATT ULTRA LINEAR HIGH-FIDELITY AMPLIFIER AG

## A highly sensitive Pugh

 unit with self-contained Pre-amp. Tone Control Stages. Certified performance figures compare equally with most expensive ampinfers available. Inym level $30-30,000$ c'es. Frequency response $t 3$ db. a eotionain is used with 807 oucput transformer is ased with 807 output alves. All components are chosen for reliability, Six valves are usod, and mun inpate Bass and Treble controls. Minimun input required for full output is Alrin.. The unit is designed for (ri, Uras.


 tandard or long-playing records.
 rT Amplifier operates on 200250 V 50 cic A. C. Mains and has mm speakers complete nit of parts with lly pumched chassis and point to poin iring diagrama and ind polito-poin r roquiced coven as fur as can be supplied for 1 an extra input with $1,6$. ciated vol control so that two separare inputs such as Grarn. and Mike oan be Carr. 10' mixed, can be provided for 13'- extra. The amplifier can be supplied, fuetory built with 12 months* guarantec for $50^{-}$ extra. TESRMS for assembled two input model : DFPOSI' 289 and 9 monthly payments of 28.9 .
P.M. SPF:NKRKA. All 2-3 ohms. Sin. Goodmans. 1779. 6qin. Plessey, 16ia. 81 n Plessey, $16 / 9 . \quad$ sin. Rola, 19/7. $101 n$ 26/9. 121n. Pjossey. 2911. 10in. W. 29. "Stentorian 3 or is ohms type HF1012 10 watts, hish-fldelit.v tywe. Highly recommended for use with ans of our ampligers, $x^{2} 410.9$.

PIMOMSHE DEAE, (WN'HNTHIC 12ir 15 ohm IIIGIL FIDBLITY SPBAKEI with buit-in weeter completelv separate clliptical spaaker with choke, conden sers, etc. providins, extraondinarily realistic reproduction when used with Oul' A's or sinnilar dmpifien. rated 10 watts. lrice complete, only $55 / 1 \% 18$. M.E. WRFAKEIES $2-3$ ohms, 8in. 1R.A. Field, 600 ohms, 119. 10in. R.A. Field ohms 23. $9,239.10 \mathrm{n}$. It.A. Fifeld. 1,500 ohms, 23.9
COANIAI. INBI.E: 7.5 ohm: in. 81 yerd. Twin screened Freder. ilil. vald.


| 6,12 v. 1 a. | $5 / 9$ | 12v. 12. H.W., $2 / 9$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $6.12 r$ a | 89 |  |
| 612 k a. | 129 | $100 \mathrm{v} .40 \mathrm{ms}$. . $3 / 9$ |
| 612 v ¢ | 16,9 | 250 v. 50 mA. $5 / 9$ |
| 6.12 v 6 $\mathrm{a}^{6}$, | $19 \%$ | $250)$ v. 80 ntA . $\mathrm{y}_{19}$ |
| 612 v. 10 q. | 25.9 | 250 v .150 mA . $9 / 9$ |
| 1..T. TVymen | H. 11. | 300 v. $2 \overline{2} 9$ แA. $12 / 9$ |

## R.S.C. 3.4 WATT A’

## HIGH-GAIN AMPLIFIER

 -mperarante and wherification with Comeplatt" Kit witl fiatronme f3 15-

 A desigin of a 3-valve $330-250$ v. A.C. Mains receiver with selenium rectifler. It eon sists of a variable-Mu high-gain IH.F. stage followed by a low distortion anode bend detector. Power pentode output it Lsed. Valve line up beinc tK7, SP6I 6F6G. Seleotivity and qualtty are well us) to standird, and simplicity of construc tion is a special feature. Point-to-point Wiring diagrams, instruktions, and parts
list. 18 . This receiver can be built for a maximum of s4/19:6 including putractive Brown or Cream Bakelite $\mathrm{Or}^{4}$ Walnut feneered wood eabinet 12 s of $85!+11$ £2: 23 wilra nomer 55

## MRY. COIL PACKS

CP. $3 / 370 \mathrm{pF}$ and $\mathrm{CP} .3,500 \mathrm{pF}$. These 3 waveband Coil Packs are available for use with either 370 pF or 500 pF tuning condensers. The coverages are Long Wave $800-2,000$ metres, Med. Wave 200-550 metres, Short Wave $16-50$ metres. Designed for use with Jackson Bros. Full Vision Drive or SL. 8 Spin Wheel Drive. Retail Price of each unit ; 32:-plus 12;9 P.T.-. Total 44:9.
CP. $3 / \mathrm{G}$. As above but with Gram. position, suitable for use with 500 pF tuning condense: 39/-plus 15/7 P.T.-Total 54, 7.
CP. 3/F. This Coit Pack is for use with a 500 pF tuning condenser and covers the standard Long, Med. and Short wavebands with the addition of the band 50;160 metres. This covers the Trawler Band. Aeronautical and the 80 and 160 metre Amateur bands: 49/- plus 197 P.T.—Total 687. CP.3F/G. As CP.3/F but with a gram. position: 57.- plus 22.9 P.T.Total 79,9.
CP. $4 / \mathrm{L}$ and CP.4.NI. These compact 4-station Coil Packs are available for either I Long Wave and 3 Medium Wave stations (CP.4; L) or 4 Medium Wave stations (CP.4/M). They are fully wired and require only four connections for use with any standard frequency changer valve. 25/-plus 10/-P.T.-Total 35;-
CP.4L G and CP.4M/G. As CP.4/L and CP. 4 M but with provision for
 Gram. position. 31, - plus 12/5 P.T.-Total 43/5.

See Technical Bulletin DTB. 9 for details of all Coil Packs, 1 ' 6.
Available from all reputable stockists or direct from Works. Send $1 /$ in stamps for General Catalogue covering full range of components.

## DENCO (CLACTON) LTD, 357/9 OLD RD., CLACTON-ON-SEA, ESSEX

STOP PRESS : MAXI:q.F.M. TUNER UNIT assembled and valved at £9 196 inc. Power Pack at f3.' OSRAM F.MI. TUNER completely assembied and valved at $£ 30 / 16 / 0$ inc. MULLARD 3 VALVE 3 WATT HI-FI AMPLIFIER IG SMg Aluminium punched chassis. 10/6. Complete metalwork for the T.C.C. Printed Circuit version of the OSRAM 912 and MULLARD 5-10 AMPLIFIERS 15/-.
MULLARD 5-10 Type. "A" and "B " pre-amplifiers.-Chassis and Front Panel, Type "A ", 8,6, Type "B" $12 / 6$. Separate printed Gold finished Panels available, Type "A" 1/6, Type "B " 2/6.

## - Every worth-while feature



## -for only 48 gns.

Designed and precision engineered for long service with maximum efficiency, the "Brenell" Tape Recorder offers the High Fidelity enthusiast a firstclass unit of outstanding value. Incorporating all the features necessary for High Fidelity recording-including all-purpose amplifier for record playing-the "Brenell" Tape Recorder enjoys a high reputation among enthusiasts both at home and overseas.

Three independent motors. Three speeds (3: 71 and 15 i.p.s.). Twin track recording on 7 in . reels. Drop-in foolproof tape loading. !nstant stop without tape spill. Simplified control with interlocked switching. Fast forward or reverse in 45 seconds. Plays all makes of pre-recorded Tapes. Convertible to stereophonic recording. Azimuth adjustment to Record/
Hrenell Playback head. Separate bass and treble tone controls. Magic Eye Recording level indicator. All-purpose High Quality Amplifier Unic. 4-Warts Undistorted Output.

## TAPE RECORDER

From all good Radio Dealers-if in difficulty-write to-

## * built to tho highest standard!



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A very high quality Cahinm in almonem tusigh. Jxterifr velueerel itt an hiftily figured Wialnint. Nolid Block-louat lift-11, Tolj with all interiors venperal ite sifa,
more. Full silk irunt. :2i.a. , lill. more Full
nitit. high.

CASH ONLY $\$ 8$
I"wivity and ("ariuge 25:-


## CABINET <br> CAT. No (AB 0 )

A well designed Bureatets re mbibet in a tuediumsize. Venfered in a hights likite it

 contral pancl on right-hand sife arprox. 13 in . 1 liting. Remowble lathebourd wis



casa only 12 Gnj.


$\star$ CABINET car. ко. сав $\gg$ A fulmailicent burcau-is bet fabinet of the icry highest quality in surecially sebreteat finhult vencered exterior. Light kyenharore iuteriar with liesine lining to mbleh. Outside rimersions, leugth BHita. depth, $17!$ in. helcht 33 jin . Hoping eototrol matel
 Jemovable hasebmard on right sithe aprom 15bin. 玉 15 in . Two full-sized felt lised conroirtments in the lower hali. If an Creslit Terma.



CAt. No, Fimta
Crroplete mait jh Cabinet with Mapierse tuning. Boxel, 13in. Ions : Olin werall or m 'redit Tennw. $16 \frac{1}{2}$ fins.

## $\star$ F.M./V.H.F. TUNERS

Felf pmeret. Six valuea with gromatic grid T.F. slage fullowat loy addiliso iniser nstug a FCeres twin triode in esaled portiesability tuned unit. Tou I. $F$ : fiages ensure rusimmm gain with 6.11. 3 dauble dionle as ratin detector. Frequeury
 adequatc overlag. Fery flest quablis turrughenit.

 Sinw tuction tuning drive. lull movision on Antombtic Fuhme Control, Negative feed-bach invin
 Npeaker. Connections pratica to irumi. Motor controlled by Chamsis On, Off Flitrh. All inductances liws an exeenticually high $Q$ value. The Audio erction is deugreal for firet inte reprodic tion on Radio and (iramophtur. The tome caritrola bave treen given the ceira widle binge to elabrace all types oi record 1 g . CAT. No. CRA. b-valve 12 GnS. luching and Carriage 12.3.
 with rurvhF Ban 23 , Gins. f'achieg asu' f'arrituge 15:.
 f.n! with FM'VHF Rawt it watictamach



## * AUTOMATIC * RECORD CHANGERS

All automatic Record ('hangerd are of the latest trie amul unised
fAT. No, RC/A. Thia is the hatect mumto Efued changer ificorporatiug lif s.p.th, for ralking-booke," arnd arrangesnent fur mamial rontrol. Fitted with high fldelits
 cASM $£ 9.15 .0$ drackivp and Carriape 12, CAT. No. RCiB. Latest Garrart Rice Fiek-np Head, A. $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$. 200/2üt volds. If

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Iarbing and C'arriage 12:'6.

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$x$ sin. hight. CASE $£ 13,15.0$
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Pachin.t and C'thinto 12.3.

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## About these oces.

11 Carr Street, Cougee, Sydney,

Australia.
Dear Sirs,
"-will track with ease all present day records". So reads your ad. for the new Hi-g Heads. "We will soon see about that", I said. The first test for this new L. P. Head was Decca's Brahms Fourth - always very difficult to handle I found on the old head. The shock I received was enough to put me to bed for a month-where was all that distortion? Where was all that groove jumping? Having recovered my strength and secretly suspecting it was just a fluke, I tried the Swan Lake-also another jumper - and then in a determined effort ta prove you wrong, on went the Symphonie Fantastique and Rite of Spring.

At this stage the neighbours and family were seriously alarmed at sundry cries issuing from my room-they need not have worriedthey were cries of pure joy. I had seriously considered installing expensive magnetic Pick-ups - of which I knew verylittle - but this will obviously be quite pointless now.
" - will track with ease all present day records" to which $I$ sav "blessed be the name of Acos $\mathrm{Hi}-\mathrm{g}^{\prime \prime}$

Yours with relief,
(Sgd) Cliff Davidson.

FREE The subject of Hi-g cannot be adequately explained in an advertisenent, so we have produced an interesting booklet "The ABC of Hi-g". May we send you a copy?


ACOS devices are protpcted by patents, patent applications andregistered designs in Great Britain and abroad.

# PRNCTMCN WRRELES <br> EVERY MONTM <br> VOL. XJXXII, No. 598, OCT., 1956 

## More V.H.F. Stations

THE Postmaster-General has approved the BBC plans for building six more V.H.F. stations - the second stage of the plan to provide nation-wide coverage on V.H.F. of its three sound programmes. These additional stations, together with the ten already authorised, are intended to provide interference-free reception on V.H.F. of the Home, Light, and Third Programmes for about 96 per cent. of the population of the United Kingdom. Each station will carry these three programmes except Corwen, which is to broadcast the Welsh Home Service only. This area, however, will receive the Light and Third Programmes from other V.H.F. stations and also on the long and medium wavelengths. The station at Sandale, near Carlisle, will carry the Scottish Home Service in addition to the North Home Service and the Light and Third programmes. It is hoped that the new V.H.F. stations at Rowridge, Kirk o’ Shotts, Sandale and Corwen will be completed by the end of 1957, and the other two during 1958 . Of the ten stations already authorised, Wrotham, Pontop Pike. Divis and Meldrum are already in full service. Additionally, the Welsh Home Service is carried by V.H.F. transmitters at Wenvoe and Penmon working in a temporary condition. It is hoped that the remaining stations comprising the first stage, i.e., those at Norwich, North Hessary Tor. Sutton Coldfield, Holme Moss, Blaen Plwy, and the permanent station at Wenvoe, will be completed before the end of 1956, although in the case of Blaen Plwy only the Welsh Home Service may be available by that date.

The radio industry are now producing receivers which will tune to the new V.H.F. band as well as the present medium and long waves. V.H.F. adapters for use with existing receivers are also avaitable. For listeners within the areas served by V.H.F., this new method of broadcasting offers the opportunity for much improved reception, with better quality of sound and at most welcome reduction in interference of all kinds. It is emphasised again that the V.H.F. service will be supplementary to the existing medium and long-wave services, and listeners who are able to obtain satisfactory reception on these wavebands with their present receivers need
not make any change. Although many of the receivers designed for V.H.F. incorporate a built-in aerial, listeners who do not live near to a station are strongly recommended to use a good outside aerial in order to obtain the full benefits of V.H.F. reception.

## THE RADIO SHOW

ELSEWHERE in this issue we review some of the outstanding exhibits of the recent Radio Show. There was nothing really outstanding this year, and no doubt manufacturers have not been encouraged to tool up for new designs in view of the credit squeeze. The side-shows undoubtedly provide the "draw," and, apart from trade visitors and some sightseers who do not intend to buy, the exhibition as such does not contain enough new material to attract the public. The cycle trade has already found this, and after this year it is to be held biennially. It is possible that the radio industry may find it more profitable to hold exhibitions every two years, since it gives the public time to rejuvenate its enthusiasm and it gives the trade breathing space for development. By development we mean the production of really new designs, as distinct from improved cabinct designs. Nothing really striking has been produced by the radio trade for a number of years.

There is still a continuing and growing interest, of course, in TV, and in home-built radio and TV receivers, as the circulation of this and our companion journal prove.

## "AMPLIFIERS : DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION"

$T$ HERE has been an insistent demand for a book on amplifiers for several years. Readers will therefore be glad to know that we shall shortly publish " Amplifiers : Design and Construction." which deals with all aspects of design and construction from basic, practical and design considerations to constructional details of amplifiers for tape-recorders, gramophones, P.A. and radio purposes. It will include information on D.C. amplifiers, and incorporate some of the successful designs which have been described in this journal. A further announcement will be made in the next issue.-F. J. C.

# Round the WHoptay Wireters 

Broadcast Receiving Licences
THE following statement shows the approximate number of Broadcast Receiving Licences in force at the end of June, 1956, in respect of wireless receiving stations situated within the various Postal Regions of England, Wales, Scotland and Northern .Ireland. The numbers include licences issued to. blind persons without payment.

| Region |  | $\cdots$ | Total |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| London Postal:.. | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $1,300,254$ |  |
| Home' Counties | $\ldots$ | $\because$. | $1,292,236$ |  |
| Midland | $\ldots$. | $\ldots$ | $1,011,463$ |  |
| North Eastern... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $1,315,080$ |  |
| North Western... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $1,003,800$ |  |
| South Western... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 828,916 |  |
| Wales and Border Counties... | 518,294 |  |  |  |
| Total England and | Wales | $\ldots$ | $7,270,043$ |  |
| Scottand | $\ldots$. | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 934,414 |
| Northern Ireland | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 206,379 |  |
| Grand Total | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $8,410,836$ |

New Telephone Signal
TESTS are being carried out in the U.S.A. with a new idea in telephone signalling devices. In place of the customary bell to announce an incoming call musical tones are being used. Tests are being made to find the most suitable tones and intensities, and it is claimed that it has the advantage that certain musical tones can be heard above normal room noises. A further interesting feature is that transistorised circuits are being utilised for the alarm, resulting in a great saving in power-the transistorised arrangement working on less than I volt.

## " Reina del Mar" Sound Equipment

A COMPREHENSIVE set of G.E.C. sound equipment is being installed in the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's new 19,000 tons liner Reina del Mar. It will provide facilities for passengers' entertainment, announcements and crew instructions.

Radio programmes will be broadcast by a 175 w . amplifier in a 3-bay rack assembly which will be fed from a communications type of receiver mounted in the same rack. Facilities are provided for making tape recordings of transmissions received at unsuitable hours, so that they can be re-broadcast later. Music played by the ship's orchestra in the first-

> By "QUESTOR"
class dining saloon and lounge can be picked up by special microphones and broadcast throughout the ship by a 30 w . amplifier in the main rack.
Speech communication to boat stations and officers' and crews' quarters will be effected by loudspeakers fed by a 60 w . amplifier.
Equipmient for the reproduction of pre-recorded tapes and gramophone records and a compere's microphoṇe are being provided in the music-room.

## Awards for Apprentices

IN addition to the 12 Ekco apprentices who were presented with National Certificates by Mr. T. L. Morgan, Principal of the Southend-on-Sea Municipal College, recently, 20 -year-old student apprentice David Everett received his B.Sc. General. The presentation took place in the Ekco Clubhouse following a tour of the factory by parents of the apprentices.
The visitors were welcomed by

Mr. F. S. Allen, Works Director of E. K. Cole Ltd., and prior to the presentation of National Certificates 13 new Ekco apprentices signed their indenture papers.

## New Ekco Director

E K. COLE, LTD., announce that Mr. W. M. York has been elected to the Board of Directors. Formerly an Executive Director of the Company, Mr. York has been appointed to the post of Commercial Director.

Mr. York joined E. K. Cole, Ltd., in 1932 from Alvis. Ltd., where he was Publicity Manager, and has been in charge of Ekco Publicity for the past 24 years. In 1951 he was appointed an Executive Director of the Company, covering Publicity and the Thermovent Heating Division. and early last year he became additionally responsible for Ekco overseas commercial activities.

## " When You're Smiling "

THIS completely new Pye Radio Luxembourg programme was broadcast for the first time in June.
"When You're Smiling," which takes the form of an amateur talent contest, will be recorded at


Mr. A. H. Whiteley, of Whiteley Electrical (makers of the wellknown WID speakers, etc.) with Air Marshal Sir Bryan V. Reynolds, K.C.B., C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Coastal Command, on the occasion of a Garden Party held at Mr. Whitelev's residence at Manstield. The occasion was held to raise funds for the Mansfield Squadron of the A.T.C., of which Mr. A. H. Whiteley is Chairman, receipts for which amounted to $£ 153$.
a different Butlin's Holiday Camp each week, with Larry Cross compere during the past year of Pye's Iuxembourg show, "People Are Funny," as Master of Ceremonies.

The three best acts each week. to be selected by audience applause. will receive a radio set as a prize. In addition, listeners will be invited to write to Pye naming their favourite act to appear in an all-winners programme in August. where the winner will receive a television set.
This series, which will run for eleven weeks, is intended to support the Pye portable sales campaign by commercials over the air and by displays in Butlin's Holiday Camps and dealers. windows.

## S. Africa's Largest Broadcasting Station

' ['HE South African Broadcasting Corporation's largest broadcasting station, at Paradys in the Orange Free State, commenced ests during April and came into partial operation on July 1st. It is to be officially opened in October or November of this year.
The Paradys station represents to Britain an export order to the approximate value of $£ 240,000$ worth of radio equipnent. This large order initiates high-power short wave broadcasting in South Africa.
Marconi's Wireless. Telegraph Co.. Ltd., have supplied nine of their Type BD. 262 series of. 20 kW H.F. broadcasting transmitters, together with ancillary equipment. Marconi engineers are assisting with final adjustments on sile but most of the installation is being carried out by S.A.B.C. personnel.

At the present initial stage of the service four iransmitters are being used to radiate the English and Afrikaans service within the frequence band 2.3-15 Mc/s. A further four transmitters. operating in the 4.7-26.1 Mc's frequency band, will come into service at a fater date. Three will be used for at service to territories to the north of the Union of South Africa. The ninth transmitter has not as yet been allozated to a specific service : it is understood that it may be used as at stand-b.

## Robby the Robot

R
OBBY THE ROBOT was the central character in the film "The Forbidden Planes," which recently finioned its first run at the

London Pavilion. The original in the film was made in America and required a team of 11 men to operate by remote controls.
M.G.M. decided that for publicity purposes in this country Robby " should be made available to audiences. The American technicians originaliy responsible for his creation expressed the view that this was not practicable. " Pytram," in just under eight weeks, have created not only an exact replica, but one which can be operated by one man.

Robby" made his first debut on television in "In Town To-night" recently, and he is to tour England, appearing on the stages of cinemas, fêtes, carnivals, etc.

His construc. tion, apart from the electrical equipment, is mainly papier mâche and flexible rubber. He is fully elcertically operated, governed by rotating loop aerials, gyro balanced, electromagnetic speech, and animated by invisible light beams.

The electrical equipment was designed and supplied by Radio Visor (Parent), Ltd., and assembled at Phtram's works.

## B.I.R.E.

THE following meeting will be held during September, 1956: London Section.-Wednesday, 26th September, at 6.30 p.m., at the Londen School of Hygienc and Tropisal Medicine, Keppel Street. Gower Street, London, W.C.I. - Some Aspects of Transistor Progress." A paper to be read by H. W. Loeb, Ph.D.

## Iranian Oil Pipeline to be Controlled

## by Radio

THE National Iranian Oil Company has awarded a $£ 300,000$ contract to Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co., Ltd., for the supply and installation of a complete V.H.F. multi-channel radio system along the length of their new


Rohby the Rohot. See story of the left.

600-mile oil pipeline from Abadan to Teheran. The order was gained for Britain despite keen forzign competition.
Equipment to be supplied includes 84 Marconi V.H.F. mulii-
channel equiprrent type HM181. together with a considerable quantity of telephone carrier equipment and diesel electric power piant.

## B.I.C.C. Board Appointment

 $\mathrm{B}^{\text {RITISH INSULATED CAL- }}$ LENDER'S CABLES LTD. and Automatic Telephone \& Electric Co.. Ltd., announce that Sir Archibald Gill, B.Sc.(Eng.). M.I.E.E., F.I.R.E., has joined British Telecommunications Re search. Lid. as Director and General Manager. Past-President of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Sir Archibald was largely responsible for the equipping of the first coaxial cable in this country and the post-war expansion of long distance radio and cable communications.
## New British Standard

A NEW Standard was issued in July, No. B.S.419:1956. The title is Varnished cotton cloth sheet and tape for clectrical purposes. This a revision of the 1931 edition.


$\mathrm{A}^{\mathrm{s}}$S mentioned elsewhere on this page, we are preparing this report from information supplied by the manufacturer and consequently last minute surprises may appear. So far, however nothing unusual in the radio section has been announced. The main difference between this year"s equipment and that of the last show lies in the widet employment of the printed circuit technique, and the increased use of the V.H.F. bands-even in the smaller table models. The printed circuits are now being used in some receivers for the complete circuit, as distinct from those who have only a portion of the circuit in this form. An instance is the Pamportable. Coupled with the use of this new icchnique is the employment of special components designed either for inclusion in a printed wiring arrangement or utilising themselves a printed scheme. Illustrated below are some T.C.C. components lypifying both these aspects. On the left is shown two types of wafer switch in which the contacts are flush with the surface to avoid noise and "contact bounce." The contacts are silver or thodium plated to provide low


Two types of primed wafer swithes by T.C.C.

## SPECIAL NOTE

This report has been compiled from information supplied by exhihitors, as we go to Press with this iswe hefore the show opens. The omission of cortain exhibits is, therefore, explained by the fuct that the manfacturers concerned have not, at the time of going to Press, supplied lus with the information.
contact resistance. On the right are two views'ol' a component tag board for inclusion in a printed circuit. In addition, to these examples there are valveholders and other parts designed for this specific type of circuit.

## Transistors

The other feature which merits mention is the use of the transistor. These do not appetr, from the details we have receised, to be used on such a large scalc as had been anticipated. Probably this is due more to the price ol the components than their efficiency, but again miention must be made of the Pam portable which apart from utilising the printed circuit is also an "alltransistor " receiver. For its power supply it needs four U2 cells ( 6 volts) at which the consumption is only 35 milliamps. With batteries it weighs only

T.C.C. printed circuit tug panels for use as subassemblies. By using these on a printed circuit hoard better ase can be made of the wailahle space for a given cabinet size. The components are edgesoldered on the hag panels.
adequate signal pick-up. This was later avoided by using at flat pancake type of acrial coil, but again it had to be orientated to obtain maximum signal strength, and in addition was susceptible to stray capacity effects. The modern arrangement utilises a rod of powdered iron, very similar to the material from which tuning cores are made, and in most receivers this is about 8 in . in length and carries a medium-wave coil on one end and the long-wave coil on the other: It is usually supported in rubber grommets on two brackets cut from the chassis, and apart from enabling the overall dimensions of the cabinet to be reduced, in gives improved results over the older frame winding.

## Table Models

So far as the table models are concerned, again some care appears to have been taken to make models more in keeping with modern contemporary furnishings. In addition to the outward appearance, many of these now have a tuning band for the F.M. signals and in many models great care has been taken to make the speaker arrangement suitable for the reproduction of these higher fidelity signals. The model illustrated at the top of page 520 is the Bush VHF61. This is an A.C. only model with medium, long and the V.H.F. band, and has internal aerials for all bands and sockets for the use of external aerials. The pushbuttons seen at the bottom of the tuning scale are for wave-changing and provision is made for the use of a gramophone pick-up. The next is another Murphy model, the 362 . This has a plastic case, and, again, has a tuning range for F.M. This is a 5 -valve circuit, and for those who are interested in design the cabinet is finished in maroon and the front is in beige and gold. At the foot of the page is a K.B. receiver, a new model, the NR30. In this model no less than three speakers are used in an arrangement which the makers have called "TriFi," a very good instance of the attempt to take full advantage of the F.M, signals. The circuit is a


7 -valve superhet and again internal A.M. and F.M. aerials are utilised. All three of these models, as well as the majority of other models in the show, have the magic-eye tuning device to ensure accuracy of tuning and the avoidance of distortion due to being slightly off-tune.

## Console Models

Coming now to the console models, these are undoubtedly in the majority and the various designs which are available cover a very wide field. Apart from the simpler types; consisting of a radio only, there are models which include elaborate autochangers, record storage space, and even Jarge sereen television receivers. From an outward appearance point of view, i.e., general design, the Cossor models are most interesting, having got away from the usual walnut or mahogany cabinet, and in the gold and sycamore finish they present a most pleasant contemporary appearance. In addition to the radio-gram or television-plus-radiogram, there is also the gramophone reproducer only, a very good example of this being the Panatrope shown at the foot of this page. This is a three-speed set with Garrard auto-changer, and takes up to 10 records of any one size and speed. It has an output of only 2.5 watts and uses three valves, types 6SL7, 6L6 and a rectifier, EZ40. An external speaker socket is provided with a switch to silence the internal speaker if desired. This model costs 47 guineas. In the de-luxe class may be mentioned the Ferranti Model 1055. This also utilises a Garrard 3 -speed record changer, but incorporates a 12 -valve 4 -waveband superhet for A.M. and F.M. It has tone compensated volume control and independent bass and treble controls with seratch and rumble filters for the gramophone side. The output


of this rocciver is 14 watts, and this is fed into two speakers-a Goodman's Audiom 50 (12in.) and a 7in. elliptical model. Two separate specially-designed acoustic compartments are used to house these speakers. This model costs 120 guineas.

## Record Reproducing Equipment

On the record reproducer side we have, in addition to the larger types of player such as that just mentioned, the small playing desks, as well as the various types of separate unit, such as pick-ups and gramophone motors. The largest makers of the latter lwo types of equipment are probably Collaro and Garrard, and most of the complete radio-grams

these firms. The majority to-day are, of exurse, of th: three or four speed lype, although some are now available with a variable control so that any desired adjustment of speed may be obtained. Collaro have produced some models capable of 16 r.p.m. for the new "Talking book" record. All of the Collaro gramophone units, etc., are fited with the "Sudio" cartridge of which four types are available, dependent upon the requirements of the amplifier on which the pick-up is intended to be used. In the Garard range some new changers have appeared and a control is fited to enable the user to play records singly when desired. A special model 301 Transcription motor will interest Hi-fi enthusiasts; not only have wow and flutter been altended to, but also switch clicks are suppressed. A new pick-up arm has been introduced and is shown on the right and it will be seen that this carries its own rest, as well as having many other desirable features.

Many of the pick-ups fitted to the modern player are of the turn-over lype, having in effect the two pick-ups in one housing-one for normat speeds and

one for the stower speeds. A typical model of these is shown in the illustration above and thes is an Acos priduct (Cosmocord Lid.).

So far as the actual players are concerned these ate forme in the small portable "playing desk " as well ats in the larger hi-fi units. An interesting player has been produced by Electric Audio Reproducers Ltd. (Ear) in which the amplifier which is incorporated is of the mansistorised type. It is also fitted with it 4 -spleed mixer record changer and it is for battery operation. Fuller details will not be anailable until the Show opens.

## Tape Recorders

Coupled with the portable record players are the tape recorders. and in fici these would appear to be taking the place of the former. They alic capable of giving much better reproduction. of contse, as the tape has nothing like the background which arises from worn gramophone records. Furthermore you can make your own recordings from good broadeast cokerts so there is an extremely
wid: field available. The modern hi-fidelity tapes supplied by H.M.V. are also an improvemant on the ordinary record. Various tape recorders and parts have been announced and one of the most interesting


The Garrard TP, 110 Transcription Pick-II Arm.
of which we have received details is shown at the foot of page 522. This is a Collaro Tape Transcriptor. This is available, if so desired. complete with a pre-amplifier and power pack. The transcriptor is a 3 -speed model twin-track machine with four heads on two distinct levels. Both top and bottom tracks can be recorded and played back without removing the tape and the machine is instantly reversible so that the change from one track to another maly be made immediately. The heads are double coil wound with a low hum level. giving up to $12,000 \mathrm{c} . \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{s}$. at a tape speed of $7 \frac{1}{2}$. per second.

In the Simon range, a special Matching V.H.F. unit has been produced for their SP/2 recorder io enable high-fidelity recordings to be made from the new F.M. broadcasts, whilst they have also produced a "Library Recording Tape" for the enthusiast who wishes to build up a libary of his own recordings. This has a P.V.C. base and is boxed in a book style to provide full storage protection and easy reference. Provision is also made for title change.

## Components

On the individual component side the only announcement of anything new is in the loudspeaker

range. With the increasing use of F.M. receivers and the high quality tape recordings just mentioned there exists a need for better loudspeakers, and although a number of tweeters or high-note speakers have been announced these are not sufficient alone


The Whiteley Electrical (W/B) H.F. 1514 Loudspeaker which costs £24 10s. Od.
for obtaining the best quality. Messrs. Goodmans and $W / B$, to mention only two of the firms who specialise in loudspeaker's, have produced cabinets designed to house their products and give high quality reproduction. Unless there is adequate baffe area the low notes suffer, but many cabinet designs provide only a boom at the lower frequencies and these properly designed cabinets attempt to eliminate these resonances and even out the response. In addition, the G.E.C. for instance, will be showing the metal cone speaker, also designed for which is a cabinet to give the proper loading and performance. In the $\mathrm{W} / \mathrm{B}$ range a new design of combined dynamic and electrostatic speaker is to be released at Show time and will be heard in the W/B demonstration rooms. Certain of their loudspeaker enclosures are also available in ready-to-assemble form and include a standard bass reflex cabinet; a corner bass reflex cabinet, and a hi-fi reproducer console to house record-player, amplifier, tuner and records. All these may be obtained in polished walnut veneer or plain whitewood and are supplied packed flat complete with screws.
A new design is announced by

Plessey in which it is claimed that a flat frequency response is obtained with perfect transient response as there are no moving parts in the unit's construction. This is known as an lonophone.
Anoong the many other individual items are valves, the majority of which are of the miniature type and of which a screened type is shown in the illustration on page 521. This is a Brimar product. In the Mullard range are the many special miniatures used in modern television receivers, as well as in the smaller types of máins receivers, and an improved version of the Mullard 3 -valve 3 -watt amplifier has been announced. We have already mentioned the special printed circuit components and in addition to these there are various types of transistor, metal rectifier, germanium diodes and similar itcms.

## Power Transistors

As we go to press Pye announced and demonstrated a novel Loudhailer which utilised a built-in power amplifier employing transistors only. These are of a new type, known as power transistors, giving, with two components only, an audio output of 3 watts. This interesting development will no doubt find application to radio equipment later, and the transistors, which consist in effect of three ordinary type transistors mounted on a single base have been developed in the Pye laboratories, and it is claimed that this is the first time this type of component has been used. With four Ever Ready cells (type 1839), an average consumption of 120 mA and a battery life of 12 hours (using the instrument in a duty cycle of 20 seconds on and 20 seconds off) the smatl amplifier gives a reasonably flat response over the speech range at a maximum of $3 \frac{1}{2}$ watts. The small amplifier unit, mounted on a paxolin plate measures only about $3 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. by 2 in . but it is interesting to note that no use is made of the printed circuit technique on this particular amplifier. The amount of wiring is, however, so small that it would hardly be worth while, and the very few components are wired in the ordinary way.

The Collaro Transcriptor
Tape Dech.


NOISE or voice operated relays have frequently - bsen used in the past to provide semi-automatic control of one form or another. Advertising organisatisons, for example. have been known to install such devices in departmental store windows, where the noise or chatter of passing pedestrians has operated the device by means of which an illuminated window display is switched on. Better known to the radio constructor are its uses as an R/T transmitter switch; the operator"s voice is used to switch on the H.T. to the power amplifier stages so that the transmitter radiates only when it is actually being modulated. On similar lines the voiceoperated, relay can be used to switch public address cquipment on and off.

Such a device could readily be fitted to control the starting and stopping of a tape recorder, particularly if the latter is used for dictation purposes. A great siving in tape would thereby be effected. The

USING A VOICE OPERATED RELAY IN A
CIRCUIT WHICH•IS ALSO SUITAGLE FOR AUDIO CONTROL Or TAPE RECORDER, TRANSMITTER, ETC. By Hugh Guy
recording thus made would be far more coherent in that long silences due to pauses in the dictation would be eliminated on playback.
A further use for a sensitive relay of this description is found in the burglar alarm. Provided that its use were restricted to locations where there was normally no undue noise or disturbance, then the device would make a very reliable and foolproof alarm.

Several other uses will suggest themselves to the enterprising reader and the construction of a unit is described which will fulfil most of the above functions and others besides.
It is hoped to give further information in later issues of this journal on additional voice-operated relay designs. Meanwhile this article deals with such a relay intended for use as a baby alarm.

## Function of a Baby Alarm

Quite simply an alarm of this description is used to inform the infant's parents (or baby sitters) of the child's movements or whimperings when he or she is supposed to $t$, asleep.

As a rule the device takes the form of a simple audio amplifier which is fed by a microphone placed near the babys cot. The audio output is taken to a


Fig. 1.-Theorctical circuit. A full list of parts appears on page 524.
loudspeaker which is installed wherever the parents are located. The one disadvantage of an arrangement of this sort is the incredible distraction the system causes. In contrast to the necessity for general quiet in the absence of an alarm due to one ear being permanently alerted for noises off, the owners of such a device are made fully aware of Junior"s existence by the peculiar variety of noises that issue from the

loudspeaker. With a reasonably sensitive amplifier even the rustle of bedclothes is reproduced as an ominous roar.

Since it is only required to register certain of the infant's "signals," some alternative indication of his or her misery is called for.
Stating the requirement an alternative way, a less alarming baby alarm is demanded.

A voice-operated relay immediately suggests itself for the task, since by restricting its sensitivity only the baby's cries will operate the switch. This in turn can be made to operate any electrical indicating device required. For example it may switch on a small warning pilot lamp; it may ring a bell; it could even switch off the television or radio set, if either of the latter is in use at the time. The form that the warning takes is entirely the choice of the user.

## Circuit Operation

Fig. I shows that the circuit uses two valves, both double triodes.

The first stage V1a is a voltage amplifier having a gain of about 85 . This is used to amplify the output from the microphone XT. The amplified signals are then rectified in the second half of the valve, V1b, which is an infinite impedance detector of high efficiency.

A direct vohage proportional to the signal received by the microphone is thus produced across the load resistor R4 and determines the potential of the grid of V2a. The two sections of V2 are seen to be connected in the form of a long-tailed pair circuit. Normally, in the absence of any input signal, the valves $V 2 a$ and V 2 b are so biased that only V 2 b conducts. The anode current to the latter valve energises the coil of the relay in its anode circuit, holding the relay in.

When a signal is received at the microphone the amplified and. rectified output appearing at V2a grid increases the potential sufficiently to permit anode current to flow in this valve also.

Due to the design of the V2 stages. which many readers will recognise as a "Schmitt Trigger " circuit, the current which was formerly flowing in V2b is diverted to Vla. de-energising the relay.

To understand this process a little more clearly a step-by-step analysis of the circuit will help.

In the absence of any signal the grid potential of V 2 b is about 57 volts, due to the voltage dividing chain R9, R11, R12. V2a grid meanwhile is set to a voltage well below this level. This arrangement ensures that only current from V2b flows in the cathode resister R10. Under these conditions the common carhode potential is about 59 volts. Valse data for V 2 show that to ensure that no current is drawn by V 2 a its grid potential must be at or less than 50 volts.

If the grid voltage is set at this critical level, then the slightest increase in potential at this point will cause anode current to flow in this valve, too. Further, the flow of anode current will cause a voltage drop across the load resistor R9. This voltage drop will be conveyed to V 2 b grid by the direct connection afforded by R11, R12 and the grid level reduced. This connection from the anode to the following grid forms a positive feedback path, and consequently the action of slightly increasing the potential of V2a grid is highly regenerative. Formerly the common cathode potential was dependent solely on the grid potential of V2b. When the latter decreases, then the cathode voltage will follow suit. This fall increases the relative grid-to-cathode voltage of V 2 a . As a result this valve's anode current is further increased causing an even bigger voltage drop at the following grid.

| RESISTORS | COMPONENTS LIST CONDENSERS | ACCESSORIES |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R1-2.2 M ${ }^{\frac{1}{4} \text { w. (Erie). }}$ | C1-25/fr 12 v.w. electrolytic | XT-Crystal microphone (see text). |
| R2-1.2 M 2 + w. (Erie). | (Hunts .l114PH). | Relay 1-6,000 ${ }^{\text {g P.O. }}$, relay (see |
| R3-15 K 4 w . (Erie). | C2-0.001//F (Hunts W99 or W97 | text). |
| R4-4.7 M 2 m ${ }^{\frac{1}{4} \text { w. (Erie). }}$ | series). | T1-240:6.3v. heater transformer. |
| R5-10 M $\Omega$ w. (Erie). | C3, C4--16+16/f 350 v.w. electro- | W1-240v. 10 mA (min.) half-wave |
| R7-220 K 4 w. (Erie). | lytic. | SK1-2-pin miniature battery socket |
| R8 $68 \mathrm{~K} \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{w}$. (Erie). | C5, C6-0.1 $/$ F (paper). | and plug. |
| R9-5.6 K $\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{w}$. (Erie). |  | SI-2-pole rotary mains on-off |
| R10-10 K $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{w}$. (Erie). |  | switch (Plessey type B). |
| R11-1 M $\Omega \stackrel{1}{+} \mathbf{w}$. (Erie). | ES | Screened wire, connecting wire, 6BA |
| R12-270 K $\frac{1}{} \mathbf{W}$. (Erie). |  | and 4BA nuts and screws, and |
| VRI-100 K carbon pot. (midget). | VI-12AX7 (Brimar). <br> V2-12AT7 (Brimar). | solder tags, iwo 5 -way tag strips, grommets. |

This whole switching of anode current from one valve to the other happens instantaneously, and this type of circuit permits quite large currents to be switched by means of very small signaf or "trigger" voltages.

Its function might be described as a means of making a magnetic relay super-sensitive.

We thus have a means of operating the contacts of a relay by means of an audible signal. Let us consider the purpose of the apparatus for a moment to decide exactly what function we require of it.

## Performance Required

As it stands the device will respond to noises above a certain level. Obviously, it would be extremely difficult to get the relay to differentiate between crying and other sounds. A circuit which merely opened the relay for signals above a certain threshold and held it open thereafter would have many practical disadvantages as a baby alarm. One cough from the infant, for example, would "trigger" the indicating lamp or bell, etc., which, since it would remain in the "alarm" state, would give no real clue to the listener as to the urgency of the warning.

A better system is to arrange that the warning lasts only as long as Junior's "signal." In other words, the relay must open only when the grid potential of V2a rises above its normal critical level of 50 volts. This is accomplished by careful arrangement of the Schmitt trigger circuit values.
This type of performance is obviously the only one that would be suitable for the tape recorder, transmitter and P.A. applications mentioned earlier.

For a burglar alarm. however, any noise or disturbance should set the warning device going, and therefore the relay must be operated once only, being held in this new state until reset manually.

A third type of performance that might be required would specify that the warning device-a lamp, for e xample-should be switched on and off intermittently once the relay has been triggered. This arrangement would give a more compelling type of warning.

Slight circuit modifications enable any one of these types of alarm to be achieved and are given later

## Circuit Details

To set the critical voltage level at V2a grid the carbon potentiometer VR1 is included in the bias chain of the detector. Adjustment of this preset control determines the cathode potential of V1b and hence that of the following grid, to which it is directly coupled.

Condenser C5 is part of the detector smoothing circuit and its value will fix the time for which the relay is switched off after the audio signal has ceased. lts present value of $0.1 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ gives the circuit a time constant of approximately half a second. This is sufficient to ensure that the relay does not "chatter" when the audio signal is of a warbling nature. Longer hold-off times can be achieved by increasing this value and by-connecting a similar condenser across resistor $\mathbf{R 1 2}$. This method is recommended if the device is to be used for controlling a tape recorder.

The microphone used was purchased for 5 s . and is one of the small crystal inserts currently being sold as ex-Government stock. If the microphone is being built into the unit, then the crystal type is recommended by its small size. In some instances, however,
there are advantages in mounting the microphone externally, in which circumstances any reasonably sensitive instrument may be used. Some readers may even prefer to use a small loudspeaker with its output transformer matching it to the input grid. Provided that the input lead is screened the type of microphone is not critical.
The relay was again an ex-Government purchase, and in the prototype unit had 12 contacts comprising four changeover switches. Actually, only two contacts were used. These were connected, as shown, in the circuit of Fig. 1, so that when the relay opens two


A three-quarter rear view of the unit.
contacts make to connect the heater voltage supply to the output socket SKI. It is to this socket that a length of twin flex is connected to convey the alarm signal to a warning lamp. The connections made to the relay are a matter for individual choice, being determined by the type of warning it is intended that the unit shall give. It should be remembered, however. that the relay opens or is de-energised when the alarm is triggered. This means that while the unit is warming up the alarm will be operating. This is no drawback if the alarm is an indicating lamp as it is in the circuit, but could be annoying if a bell were being used. Two contacts that are normally made should be used if the alarm is of the form shown in the circuit.

The power supply to the circuit is provided by a half-wave metal rectifier feeding a $16+16 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ electrolytic combination (C3, C4 in the circuit). V2 requires no smoothing and hence is connected directly aftethe rectifier. The total current drain should not exceed 7 mA , not including the current drawn by the electrolytic condensers, and as a result the H.T. voltage is reasonably high at about 270 volts.

The valve heaters cán be wired either as 12.6 volts or as 6.3 volt combinations. The latter connection is chosen if a heater transformer is to be used. Alternatively, for an A.C./D.C. baby alarm the heaters may be wired in series and connected to the mains supply via a 0.15 amp mains dropper of resistance 1,390 ohms. The latter mode of connection makes the provision of an alarm supply more involved, but a satisfactory arrangement will be given for A.C./D.C. connections next month.
(To be continued.)

# anew- <br>  

a Valuable ald $\operatorname{IN}$ the SEARCH fOR HIGH fidelity

By Arthur Adams

THE introduction of the long-playing record, with its extended frequency range, gave a much-nceded fillip in the search for high fidelity reproduction. A further spur in this respect is the vastly superior quality of reproduction which is obtainable from the new frequency modutation transmissions of the BBC.

After a quarter of a century in the field of acoustics and a continuous striving for improvements in reproduction, the writer feels that his experiences (and mistakes) may be of assistance to others.

Although the loudspeaker is perhaps the weakest link in the chain, modern magnets with improved flux density and more precise tooling have given us excellent range and linearity; but where the manufacturers have failed, however, is that their backroom boys have not provided or designed suitable cabinets or enclosures to house these splendid units.

Hitherto, in order to eneompass the lower frequencies, we have had to resort to reffexing with

its resonances, or the cumbersome corner enclosure with its booming and muddled bass. The large exponential horn is far too out of place for domestic purposes. It seems crazy 10 the writer that after producing ultra linear amplifiers we pass the resultant output through loudspeaker enclosures that boom and resonate in order to provide a spurious bass.

The position and size of the vent in the reflex cabinet determine its resonant frequency and if the music modulates its harmony to a point with its fundamental just off this frequency a discord will be produced. This is why the real student of harmony just laughs at our "canned music." It sounds to him like a bass player striking a wrong note.
The big enclosures and the craze for increased "cubic capacity" also ruin the crispness of the bass response of the best loudspeakers.: The bass notes re-echo and resonate around the walls of these large enclosures so that the transients in the bass are entirely lost in a muddled boom.

## A Reversal

In this new design we adopt a complete reversal of this policy of large cubic capacity and place the loudspeaker in a compartment only just large enough to contain it. The necessary baffing being effected by an extended air column at the back of the diaphragm. This air column is expanded exponentially in order to avoid any resonances. In this way the diaphragm is made to behave in exactly the same manner as when exponentially horn-loaded at the front.

It will be at once appreciated that the exponential expansion of this air column really necessitates a curved structure, but straight material is used in this new design and the exponential factors are closely adhered to. The small plus and minus tolerances are carefully balanced out and have no effect on the resultant reproduction. If the measurements in the design are precisely adhered to, none of the cells will set up a resonant frequency or peak.
(Continued on page 529)

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MODEL I
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## MODEL 2

D.C. VOLTAGE : 0 to 1,000 volts. A.C. VOLTAGE : 0 to 1,000 volts. D.C. CURRENT: 0 to 500 mA . RESISTANCE : 0 to $200,000 \Omega$. Total resistance of meter: 4 MI . SENSITIVITY: $4000 \mathrm{D} / \mathrm{V}$.

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## Construction

The enclosure is made throughout in $\frac{3}{4}$ in. compoboard (Weyroc) and all joints must be firmly fixed and glued. This is particularly needed where the inner back meets the side panels. If this joint is not firmly made the side panels will "boom."


It will be observed that the front half of the enclosure is divided by a shelf, forming two compartments; the lower one accommodates the bass speaker and utilises the cellular-back baffle. This compartment must be


Fig. 2.-On the left the partition, in the centre the shelf, and on the right the gussets.
edge of the shelf must fit closely to the front panel when assembled and a small channel cut or filed in its front edge for the speaker leads. The leads can be located on the panel with sticky tape so that they fit into this channel on assembly.

The treble speaker ( 6 in . elliptical) and crossover unit are fitted in the upper compartment. It should
be noted here that an elliptical speaker gives a better horizontal diffusion when mounted vertically.
The main speaker lead from the amplifier enters the enclosure through a tin. hole, which should be drilled in the back panel 10 in . from the base. The lead should be provided with a collar or knot on the inside to prevent its being pulled away from the connections.
The back vents should be covered with mustin or light material in order to prevent the ingress of the dómestic cat, toys, etc. The front panel is entirely covered with decorative material to taste.
The construction should be quite clear from the drawings and although rather complicated will be found well worth while; the crisp reproduction of the lower frequencies is a revelation, whilst the extended upper range assists in the reproduction of real high fidelity.

It should be understood that this design forms the basis of a patent application and cannot be manufactured for sale without arrangement with the designer.

## Assembly Order

The peculiar construction of this new form of cabinet at first presented a problem, as the speakers had to be fitted from the front instead of being inserted from the back. In this case the speakers and crossover unit are all attached to the front panel, which is fastened in from the front; the panel screws being hidden by a $\frac{3}{i} \mathrm{in}$. quarter-round moulding which is mitred to a "push-in" fit. "(It may, of course, be pinned or glued.)
The best method of assembly is found to be as follows :
After all the necessary sections have been prepared, the precise positions of the gussets and partitions should be marked on both backs so that nails or screws may be driven through when being glued and.


Fig. 3.-The front and back indicating the position of the partitions, gussets and shelf.
assembled. (This marking is necessary because the inner pieces are out of sight.)

First lay the outer back flat and apply the sides, top and the bottom, the back being inside and flush with the back edge of the panels. Glue and screw (or nail) all the joints.

The gussets and partitions are now fitted and glued. It will help in securing the correct location if small holes for the nails are drilled through the inner and outer backs. The inner back may now be laid in and firmly glued and pinned to the inner pieces and to the side panels. Securing the inner back all round is the most important, as if this is not done the sides will resonate.

The shelf is now fitted 16 in . from the bottom and securely fixed to the side panels and inner back by nails driven obliquely or by small battens fixed to the sides and back. A $\frac{3}{4} \mathrm{in}$. fillet is now fixed all round the inside of the outer panels, $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in. from the front edge and in line with the front edge of the shelf. This is for fixing the front panel. File or cut a $\ddagger i n$. vertical groove in the precise centre of the front edge of the shelf for the speaker leads, as previously mentioned. The compartment with the back aperture is now lined with in . felt or similar soft material. All screws or nails should be driven below the surface and a good filler used to level up. The cabinet may then be painted or veneered and polished.

## New Organ Tuning System

ON each occasion that the organ at the Colston Hall, Bristol, is to be used, the instrument is tuned. This tuning is necessary because of the extreme sensitivity of this great instrument to even slight variations of temperature and humidity in the vast organ chamber. It is no mean lask, for the new organ, which took five years to build, has 5.372 pipes, 14 wind chests, mostly in halves of the slider type; 18 wind chests of the unit type and 17 reservoirs. Just under 4,000 electromagnets in the organ have windings requiring 300 miles of copper wire. Insulated multi-core cable takes 800 wires from the console to the various mechanisms operating the organ, which was built by Harrison and Harrison Ltd., of Durham.

Further, the all-electric console is detached from the organ itself so that the player can hear the instrument in correct balance and be in a better position for contact with conductors and for view by the audience. There is, therefore, an appreciable distance between the tuner and the console. Again the "Principal" is the stop from which all others are tuned, yet it is quite a distance from other sections of the organ. Apart from distance the sound from the pipes when the tuner is on top of them is deafening.

The tuner's problems, however, have now been met by a sound system devised by The General Electric Co., Ltd.. which permits two-way communication between the tuner and the player ; the tuner using a specially constructed extraneous noise cancelling microphone. It also picks up, via two moving coil microphones, the note from the "Principal" stop and relays it to wherever the tuner is working, the tuner receiving it through a moving-coil headphone. Obviously for correct tuning the


Wearing M.C. 'phones with padded earpieces, the tuner hears the note picked up by the mike. The organist also wears 'phones and the tuner can instruct him which note to play.
equipment chosen is of extreme sensitivity, and in the words of Mr. K. N. James, the tuner, " is the best yet devised for the purpose that I know of anywhere in the country."

The $8-10$ watt amplifier employed has been designed for three fader-connected inputs, "Microphone," " Music 1 " and "Music 2." 1t has a bass attenuator control connected in series with the microphone stage to enable maximum clarity of speech and music reproduction to be obtained under various acoustic conditions. The microphone sensitivity is such that at high volume a low output microphone of the ribbon type will fully load the amplifier; an important point when an extraneous noise cancelling microphone is being used in addition to moving-coil microphones. The amplifier works under constant working or instant operation conditions. The headphones have a total weight of only eight ounces each and can be worn for long periods without fatigue.


## Those Organs

MR. F. THORNTON, of Stoke-on-Trent, writes to me concerning my note in the August issue concerning the organ programmes broadcast by the BBC. I was, of course, referring not to church services, but to those organ items which play a pot-pourri of "parbular toons." My reader tells me, what I already knew, that organ recitals as such and which play serious music are ordinary pipe organs, although they are electrically blown. I am well aware that they do not make use of valves and loudspeakers. My reader, however, thinks, as I do, that the organ is used far too often, and that organists cannot hope to have sufficient practice in order to exploit fully the resources of the instrument. There are very few cinema organists to-day, and their ranks are diminishing. The O.B.s of Joseph Seal, John Howlett, John Madin, and Douglas Reeve are worthwhile progammes, and they are evidently fine musicians. However, as I have said, I do not like organ music and it should be confined to the miserable religious atmosphere of the church. Perhaps the organist in Sullivan's beautiful melody, the Lost Chord, was feeling weary and ill at ease because the instrument made him miserable, and that is why, 1 suppose, his fingers, like some of the cinema organ instrumentalists wandered idly over the noisy keys. Nearly always the melody is killed by the organist wishing to demonstrate his digital dexterity, and his ability to operate all of the stops. Another reader, J. E. Wright, who hails from the salubrious district of Trumpington, says that my remarks caused him amusement "because they are not without justification." He disagrees, however, with me when I say that organ music is not sweet. Warming to his subject, he says that the interpretation of most music demands a tremendous range of dynamic and tonal resources of the organ. That sounds very good, but I dislike interpretations also. I like to hear the music played as the composer intended it to be played, and it is sheer impertinence for some organists to " interpret " the music in a different way. It is a gross liberty and usually results in murdering the melody. He tells me that there are no electronic organs at present broadcasting from cinemas but that same of the organs are rather old and in need of repair. A few have electronic solo attachments. He longs for the playing of Quentin Mapclean, Reginald Foort, Sidney Torch, Felton Rapley, and others. He says that he often listens to Sandy Macpherson, without recognising the tune, and he thinks he is a good muscian for a self-taught player, although he agrees that he is far too heavy in the bass.

The fact has to be faced that the organ is an obsolete instrument, like the virginal, the spinet, the clavichord, and all the other odd instruments with which compilers of crossword puzzles like to bewilder solutionists. The organ is definitely not an instrument which lends itself to
radio broadcasts, although I can see that it may entertain such people as parsons and sad-looking church-goers who know no other instrument. There are many people who like to be made miserable, just as there are pathological cases who like to go to the cinema or the theatre and have a good cry. Perhaps the cryners have discovered this fact and have adjusted their voices accordingly.

## Cryning for Cash

MENTION of cryners reminds me of the fact that we are having far too much of it. What is the advantage of children being trained to sing and passing their examinations when some half-baked and unintelligent person can earn hundreds of pounds a week just crying into the microphone and has never had a music lesson in his life? The BBC is performing a disservice to the music profession in encouraging people to believe that you can become a musician without knowing one thing about music. Some of these crooners cannot even read a note of music. Take the case of the late Felix Mendelssohn, who often was heard on the air and from the stage. He had his own orchestra, conducted it, made gramophone records; yet on his own admission he did not understand one note of music, had no training as a musician, and could not play any instrument, not even a Jew's harp. To divert attention, however, from his musical ignorance, he circulated a story to the press that he was a direct descendant of the great Felix Bartholdy Mendelssohn! I knew this could not be so, and I tackled him on it. It is true that his christian names were Felix Bartholdy and that his patronymic was Mendelssohn, but apart from that he was not related in any way to Mendelssohn, and readily admitted it. He was exposed in one of the musical papers, but did this deter Felix, or the BBC from employing him? Not a bit of it. The BBC couldn't care less. I maintain that the BBC has a moral responsibility to enquire into the training and background of the musicians they engage.

Bands go on increasing and multiplying, like germs, each has its own crooner and only very few of them can claim to be trained musicians. Most members of bands have their own aspirations to break away and form their own bands, and, indeed, that is what has happened since Jack Payne, Jack Hylton and Henry Hall pioneered this form of musical cacophony. Now there are literally dozens of bands and more and more are being formed each year-all nibbling away at the same market and reducing the possibilities of any of them ever making real money or staying the course. If they have not made real money in five years they have, to use a common phrase, "had it." Indeed, it is unthinkable that any one band, however good, should continue beyond this period. The public to-day wants change. A sort of musical metamorphosis. My advice, therefore, to those who are thinking or cashing in on the jazz noise racket is : Don't. The novelty soons wears off.

# PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN <br> AND SOME PRACTICAL <br> CONSTRUCTIONAL DETAILS 

By T. S. Skeel

(Cominued from page 449 Scpt. issue)


THIS type of switch has four contact segments at its centre and eight contacts on the outer rim, with four equally disposed insulation strips or blanks: thus the facility originally provided was that of a four-pole, two-way and off-switch. To convert, to provide switch C , for example, involves strapping (or commoning) each two adjacent centre contact segments; thus providing a two-pole five-way switch, but one of each of the five-ways is a blank, and it will be observed that the "ways" of switch C in the wiring diagram, shows a blank space between contacts 2 and 3 on both arcs. Switch D is similarly arranged ; whilst switch $B$ is wired in a somewhat similar manner, except that all four of the centre contact segments are "commoned," and this provides a one-pole double contact switch with five "ways" : giving a "one" or " two," or " both " facility, still with gaps tetween 2 and 3.

The indicating marks for the switch pointers on the outside of the front panel are spaced, of course, to coincide with the position of the switch pointer. All of these switches have very definite "click operation "; i.c., they cannot be left in mid position between contacts, even if the operator really tries to put them there. The indicating points on the panel are radially spaced holes, drilled into the ebonite and filled in with coloured (or white) sealing wax.

For example, the potentioneter switch would have for position 1 one small hole, for position 2 one large hole, both filled white, the next position is filled blue and the fourth position has one large and one small hole arranged radially and both filled white. The transformer switch is similarly arranged. The markings indicate :"position 1 "small potentiometer (or transformer) ;"position 2 " large potentiometer (or transformer); " position 3 " neither potentiometer nor transformer; and "position 4" both potentiometers or transformers. This "small, large, neither, or both " arrangement was not optional, i.e., it was not specifically desired; but was necessary for the reason mentioned earlier, i.e., the switches have two contacts adjacent and then a gap in each of the four sections.

Switch E, which is the voltmeter range switch, has all of its (4) centre contacts joined together, but three of the four rotating contacts were removed, whereas switches B, C and D each had two diametrically opposite wipers (or rotating contacts) removed. Switch $A$ is the outstanding item in the switching system; it has 18 fixed contacts and six moving ones, and is a two-position switch. It is thus a six-pole two-way switch and 16 of the fixed contacts are in use. This switch, as previously explained, is used to change over the (nominal) 350 volt circuit to a "voltage doubler" and also to connect it in series with the 150 volt supply and as explained carlier, the open circuit voltage of the combination is over 1,000 volts. The method of operation of the voltage doubler circuit cannot readily be traced on the wiring diagram and reference to the schematic diagram will be essential for a clear understanding of the principle. On the circuit diagram the five A -switch contacts are shown in the position which they would occupy when the rectifier is feeding the 350 volt circuit. All five moving contacts change over to contacts marked $B$ when the insulation test circuit is in use and at the same time contact A6 connects the negative side of the 800 volt supply to the positive side of the 150 volt supply; providing a 950 volt supply between the positive wire of the 800 volt circuit and the negative wire of the 150 volt circuit. When switch D is in the $B$ position (see
schematic diagram), the two "insulation test" terminals will have, connected between them, the 940 volt supply in series with the micro-ammeter.

The two-pin power intake plug carries two quarter. amp-rating fuses and this protection is considered very desirable.

## Auxiliary Panel

A further look-over of the unit with its " lid off," shows that the base area of the unit was not large enough to accommodate all the apparatus, and some of the voltage-doubling apparatus and 150 volt circuit smoothing equipment was of necessity mounted on an auxiliary panel fixed perpendicularly to the base. The untidy looking tag block with twelve tags (which block can be seen on the centre-line of the unit in the plan view) carries all the series resistors for the seven voltmeter ranges. The total resistance is 10 megohms. One end of the tag block is supported by the main choke and the other by the securing clamp of a $10 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor, and this is typical of the methods for putting " a quart in a pint pot."

The four "jacks," or connectors, are fixed at the right-hand end of the base and, of course, the aluminium cover has "cut-aways" giving access to them. The jacks which make available 350 volts and 150 volts D.C. and 4.0 volts and 6.3 volts A.C. are not essential, as all the supplies are brought out to terminals on the front panel ; but nevertheless if the most frequently used pieces of apparatus requiring these supplies are fitted with the appropriate plugs, much time is saved as, in some instances, the apparatus may be in use for a shorter time than it takes to make the four wire connections.
The transformer which supplies the 350 volt circuit and the 4.0 volt and 6.3 volt heater supplies was a skeleton type Services disposals without terminals or case ; which items were added by the author. The transformer for the negative supply was originally
an audio-frequency intervalve transformer and was rewound by the author to provide 150 volts and 2 volts for the green indicator lamp. The choke for the 150 volt smoothing circuit was likewise made up from disposals oddments; i.e.. two ready-wound bobbins and tag block and stampings which were


A bench test set-up showing the test unit in use.
designed for quite a different type of unit.
One of the photographs, i.e., that depicting the left-hand end of the unit, shows three bars of selenium rectifier discs and it may not be clear how they are used. When purchased (disposals again), they were all alike, that is to say, they each had thirty-six discs, all facing in one direction (like those indicated at the top-left corner of the circuit diagram). These two have not been altered in any way, and when switched as indicated in the diagram the two bars form a " full-wave" bridge type rectifier, delivering 350 volts D.C. to the smoothing circuit for anode supplies.

Reference to the diagram of the single-bar rectifier will show that it has been taken apart at its centre and that one half has been reversed and also that two additiona! connections have been provided. This modification makes the rectifier a full-wave bridge, rectifier, like the other one at the top of the diagram: except that the modified bar has only one half the


Fig. 3. - Details of the panel controls and markings.
number of discs between a pair of electrodes, which mplies that a section will withstand only one half of the reverse voltage. This, in fact, is all' that is required of it, as the output of "circuit two " is 160 volts.
This is all that can be written on the construction and design of the power pack; but it is, perhaps, desirable to mention that the power pack is not the complete answer to the serious experimenter's work. This point was brought home to the author rather strongly quite recently. He desired to know the characteristics of two H.F. pentode valves and by the time he was in a position to make all the necessary simultaneous measurements his rather s mall workbench was almost full of apparatus. Had batteries of low internal resistance been available for the test, of course, the apparatus would not have been so complicated, because the battery voltage would be constant; whereas any and every alteration of one value, i.e., say the grid volts, did in fact cause a change in every other circuit.

The meter in the power pack was used for adjustment of the anode voltage and four other meters
were used for the following measurements: grid volts, screen volts, anode current and screen current. The screen current is of no consequence so far as the characteristic curve of the valve is concerned; but it does form one component of the total cathode current, and as the valve was to have auto-bias it was essential to know the screen current.

Another essential component added was a potentiometer of about 8,000 ohms. The 100,000 ohm potentiometer in the 150 volt circuit of the power pack is O.K. for the 0 to 150 range ; but its adjustment near zero was not nearly fine enough for use over the few volts range of the H.F. pentode ; hence the 8,000 ohm potentiometer was connected in series with the $100,000 \mathrm{ohm}$ potentiometer of the power pack which was adjusted until the voltage across the $8,000 \mathrm{ohm}$ potentiometer was jus. a little more than the bias range of the valve. This arrangement permitted of the use of the whole range of the added potentiometer, with consequent ease of adjustment of the grid volts.

## News from the Clubs

EAST KENT RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec.: D. Williams, Llandogo, Bridge, Nr. Canterbury.
THE above society still meets at the basement of The Technical 1 College, Longport Street, Canterbury and continues to enrol new members. The main activity at the club has heen Direction Finding : iwo sets have been operative and three more are about to take the field. Two teams have been organised by G3JES and G3KNR and the transmitter was operated by G3EMU and Mr. R. Luff. New members and visitors are welcome, The sociely hopes the Tbanet Society are going ahead with Direction Finding apparatus.
THE WARRINGTON AND DISTRICT RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec. : R. Dyke, 22, Stetchworth Road, Walton, Warrington, Lancs.
A EECENT Field Day held to test the club's newly acquired equipment was favoured by good weather, and a very pleasant day was spent at an almost ideal location on high ground at Appleton, overlooking Warrington and the Mersey Valley.

Meetings are now held at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. on the third Thursday in each month at 13, Sandy Lane West, Longford, near Warrington. visitors and new members will always be welcome.

THE BOURNEMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec. : John Ashford, A.R.I.C.S., G3KYU, 119, Petersfield Road, Boscombe East, Bournemouh.
THIS Society is organising a Mobile/Portable Rally to take place on Sunday, 16 th September, at Stoney Cross Aerodrome, 71 miles West of Southampton on A. 31 (NGR 41/250118). Three Control Stations will be operating from 10.30 BST onwards, G2HIF on 2 metres, G3GYK on 80 metres and G3KYU on 160 meires. Anyone interested is welcome to attend and should bring picnic lunch andor tea with them. Mobile participants are asked to contact control as soon as possible on their way to the site and to report progress periodically. Any further details may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary end it is hoped that the Rally will be well supported by hams from a wide area.

The Society meets on the first Friday of each month at The Cricketers' Arms Hotel, Windhan. Road, Bournemouth, at 7.45 p.m. when visitors will be welcomed.

CRAY VALLEY
Hon. Sec.: S. W. Coursey (G3JJC), 49, Dulverion Road, New Eltham, S.E.9.
THE September meeting of the Cray Valley Radio Club will be held at the Station Hotel, Sidcup, Kent, on Tuesday, 25th September, 1956, at 8 p.m. A talk will be given by Mr. R. G. Shears (G8KW), on V.H.F. mobile radio communication with particular reference to the "Hamobile," and various types of mobile equipment will be demonstrated.
New members are cordially invited and all visitors are welcome.

## THE BRADFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hön. Sec. : F.J. Davieś, 39 , Pullan A venue, Eccleshill, Bradford 2 DURING the coming Winter Session classes for candidates for the Radio Amateurs' Examination will again be held
at the Bradford Technical College. Particulars can be had from the College, Great Horton Road, Bradford.
THE LEEDS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec. : Mr. A. Chapman, 9, Cockshott Close, Leeds 12.
$A^{T}$ the annual general meeting the following officers were appointed for the coming season which commence: on September 26th, 1956 :-
President-Mr. G. W. Rinley (GBAHU): Chairman--Mr. N. B. Bridgés (BRS13409) ; Hon. Treasurer-Mr. W. Ripley (G4AD) ; Hon. Secretary-Mr. A. Chapman; Assist. Sec.Mr. J.- R. Hey; Committee-Mr. R. Henderson, Mr. E. Sollitt, Mr. B. Payne, Mr. M. Gale (G3JMG).

## BRIGHTON AND DISTRICT RADIO CLUB

Hon. Sec. : Mr. J. Trangmar, 33, Lennox Street,-Brighton, Sussex.
$\mathrm{T}^{\mathrm{HE}}$ annual general meeting of the above club will be held at the club headquarters, "The Eagle Inn," Gloucester Road, Brightor:, on Tuesday, September 25th, 1956, at 8.15 p.m. Home and overseas visitors are always welcome at the club. which is open every Tuesday evening at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. The latest visitor to add his name to the ever growing list was EA4EO from Madrid.
PLYMOUTH RADIO CLUB
Hon Sec. : Cyril Teale, G3JYB, 3, Berrow Park Road, Peverell, Plymouth.
$T^{\text {HIS Club meets on afternate Tuesdays at the Virginia House }}$ Settlement at $7.30 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. Slow morse classes are held.
Next meetings, September 18th, October 2nd, 16 th and 30 th .
RAVENSBOURNE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
MEETINGS resume on Wednesday, September 5th at 8 p.m. $M_{\text {at the Science Room, Downham Men's Institute, Durham }}$ Hill School, Downham (near Catford, S.E. 6 and Grove Park, S.E.12), when the club transmitter G3HEV will be operationally on all bands. It is hoped to have a good building schedule this term on equipment to improve the station. Last term Field Day and Exhibition was a success. New members welcomed every Wednesday evening.

## SPEN VALLEY AND DISTRICT RADIO AND TELEVISION

 SOCIETYTHE new Hon Sec. of this society is now:
1 Mr. J. Stubbs, 5, Manor Street, Heartshead Moor, Cleckheaton.
CLIFTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec. : C. H. Bullivant, G3DIC, 25, St. Fillans Road, Catford, S.E.6.
THE Transmitting Field Day, held in what can only be described as foul weather, produced five contestants. The winner of this event was again C. Hatfull, G3HZ1, in second place was J. Lambert, G3FNZ, and in third place E. Godsmark, G3IWL.

Programme for September: 7 th and 21 st -Constructional evening and ragchew; 14th-Annual General Meeting; 28th - Junk sale.

Meetings are held every Friday at 7.30 p.m. at the clubrooms, 225, New Cross Road, London, S.E.14. Details of membership can be had upon application to the tion. secretary.
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 $4 \% 1068,4$ boost on secondar
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Type B. Mains primaries, $12 / 8$ each.
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Type C. Low capacity wound transformer for use with $\xlongequal{2}$ volt Tubes with falling emission.

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# Adding. Another Transistor Stage <br> <br> VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES FOR FURTHER AMPLIFICATION WITH TRANSISTORS 

 <br> <br> VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES FOR FURTHER AMPLIFICATION WITH TRANSISTORS}

By Capt. R. F. Graham<br>(Continued from page 482 Sepiember issue.)

THE loop coil described last month measures $182 \mu \mathrm{H}$. But a single-strand tinned copper wire 1/.036 Polythene insulated Henley equipment type will suffice for a 12 in . loop with fewer turns. For short waves, try 4 turns spaced $\frac{1}{4}$. apart 1 in. to 12 in . dia. Some foreigners fade in, overload, and fade out, without an aerial and earth.
Circuit No. 6A has been used over six months; it is superior to the first four and is definitely recommended

## Improved Direct Coupling (Fig. 6A)

This is for two transistors in parallel which are not a perfectly matched pair, It is not easy to find two to match even out of a dozen. Fig. 6 is actually for one OC72 as output.


Fig. 8.-Details of the mount and connections.
The 10 -ohm variable resistor produces an additional bias for the weaker transistor, so that both meters, M2 and M3, can be made to give the same reading.
Adjustments are made with no aerial, loop coil shorted. With the 10 - and 100 -ohm resistors set at
minimum, namely, shorted, and the 100,000 -ohm at maximum resistance, batteries are switched on, the 100 K potentiometer is reduced from maximun, for a reading of 1.6 mA on MI and then the 10 - and 100 -ohm resistors are adjusted for M2 and M3 to read exactly 3 mA . Finally, the 100 K potentiometer is adjusted to reduce M2 and M3 readings to about 1.6 to 1.8 mA without touching the 10 - and 100 -ohm resistors, which may be of the pre-set type adjustable by a screwdriver. After a few hours’ use readjust only the 100 K potentiometer. Use meters only for tuning and adjustments, short them for listening-in to save pivot wear ; use switches for this (not shown in this circuit).

Note: The .001 capacitor has been moved from GD3 and OC70 coupling and is now shown between the collectors and battery ( - ). This stabilises the very sensitive region around GD3 and OC70. If the .001 is removed, as in Fig. 6 , the receiver will produce a shrill sound if a finger is brought near this sensitive region, but when connected as shown, the diode may be touched and only mains hum will be heard in the L.S. To explain this adequately will require an expert on transistors. Suffice it to say, it works.

## Cascade (Fig. 8)

This is to draw your attention to the direct coupling used in the last three circuits. Transistors could be put into one glass tube, like a valve with eight pins, and a portion screened off as shown in the round
diagram. diagram.
Or it might be a futuristic type of multi-layer assembly as shown in another circle, where the black sections are negative and white ones positive type of semi-conductors.


Fig. 6 (A). - An improved direct-coupled circuit.

That is by the way. The fact remains that there is no stabilisation, no feedback, no perfect matching, no other refinements in some of the circuits shown. These were omitted deliberately, without apologies. so that anyone can build the very simple circuits and actually get very good results. These are not stunt circuits, but have been tried and do work well, except Fig. 4.
4.5 to 5 mA when Vc varies from 0.4 to -9 volts and is extended to -13 volts. ' $\mathrm{lb}-0.1 \mathrm{~mA}$ curve is another extreme. No one will use less than 5 mA when class A output calls for at least 5 mA bias alone.
The two smaller curves Ic ( mA ) - $\mathrm{Ib}(\mathrm{mA})$ and Ib $(\mathrm{mA})-\mathrm{Vb}($ volts $)$ are complementary. From these two, bias voltage and bias current can be ascertained for any ic rcading, bat not under practical working


Fig. 7.-A further direct-coupled circuit.
ted. but if desired, try one for the first transistor with high resistors by connecting a 1,000 -ohm potentiometer between the OC70 emitter and battery positive. Vary resistance and note results.
Of course, it would be better if the choke in Fig. 6 had a tap to match up output from OC71 to input for one OC72. Likewise, such a choke may be used instead of the 15 K and 100 K resistors, but this necessitates modifying bias arrangements, except in Fig. 7.

There is an unusual feedback in Fig. 6A-where $.001 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ was simple to add and should be used in Fig. 6.

This cascade is a D.C. amplifier with very good fidelity, and apart from wireless it can be used for many other purposes.
As already explained, the Fig. 5 is the best circuit, with automatic gain-control which comes into operation only after a certain anount of input, so it is safe to use and will give excellent results. T2 with primary windings of 120 ohms D.C. will also act as a current limiting device for the OC72 transistors, maximum output, with $4 \frac{1}{2}$-volt baitery.

## Final Notes

When OC72 transistors are available, care in use is very necessary. Data sheets and maker's curves will, at first sight, appear wonderful but, in fact, one OC72 is better-than two perfectly-matched OC71 in parallel and not three. The most important data to notecarefully is the Limiting Values which will be referred to as max.

The max. wattage curve is shown dotted in up to 120 mA . The highest curve Ic 114 mA is when Vc is only 0.4 volts and not battery 6 volts. This 1 lb -3 mA curve is outside the permissible working range of 0 to 0.4 volts. It is one extreme.

The longest range is shown in the bottom curve at ${ }^{+}$
conditions because both curves are labelled $\mathrm{Vc}-1 \mathrm{~V}$, and not the recommended 6 volts, battery.

When Ic is $50 \mathrm{~mA}, \mathrm{Ib}$ is -0.98 mA and this reading on the other curve shows Vb is then -0.24 volts bias.

Practical D.C. tests described in December are obviously called for. One new OC72 was tested accordingly for ploting two curves $\mathrm{Ic}-\mathrm{Vb}$ and $\mathrm{Ib}-$ Vb . There was no indication of any Ic and Ib until V b reached -0.15 volts; a 5.14 volt battery was used and Re load was 100 ohms. Then a circular curve took shape up to 4 mA at -0.24 volts bias for one transistor and 5 mA at same bias for another ncw OC72, both supposedly matched. Finally, the curve was straight up to 20 mA at -3.7 Vb for the first transistor and -3.35 Vb for the second one. Matching is not particularly good.
If anyone attempts using a 6 -volt battery and allows a peak of 100 mA to take place, even one half a cycle of such a peak at what works out to be about 600 milli-watts, will completely destroy OC72 transistor. The limiting value is: i.e. (pk) max. 45 mW . So we must use discretion and abandon all ideas of 100 mA and 6 volts.
If a 3 -volt battery is used with a transformer of 100 ohms D.C. and taking max. 45 mW , then ic peak current must not exceed 15 mA . But since there will be a voltage drop in the load, Vc will be less than -3 volts (actually about -2.6 volts at 15 mA ) so max. is about 18 mA . And this is so, because during tests it was noted that meter began to creep up in less than one second after reaching a steady reading at 20 mA Ic. After all the OC72 is only slightly larger than OC71 and the only difference is probably that the junction surfaces are also slightly larger and a cooling fin is provided.

When making D.C. tests for curves, it is very important to critically watch the meter for Ic cach (Concluded on page 570)

ALTHOUGH the T.R.F. receiver has become somewhat outmoded of recent years, there still remain a large number of homeconstructors either requiring a handy stand-by receiver which can be used in any room, or other readers who have not yet had sufficient practical experience to make a really sound job of a superhet. The beginner is in no position to embark upon a superhet unless proper alignment procedure is thoroughly understood; even then some trifling fault of wiring is likely seriously to discourage and upset him.

This receiver should prove interesting to both old hands and beginners alike. All parts are easily obtainable and the cabinet, chassis, tuning condenser, scale and pointer are of a type universally stocked and sold separately by almost every radio dealer. Very slight modification to the chassis only is necessary (to accommodate the modern small valves used-6BA6, 277 and ECL80).

## Performance

It was designed primarily from the point of view of sensitivity and on local stations (on full volume) the receiver is overloaded. We know this is undesirable, but no reader is likely to need full volume and the set therefore has power in reserve for the time when valve emission begins to deteriorate. The quality is no more than can be expected from a small speaker in a small cabinet, but is quite tolerable and not unplesasnt. For local reception no more than a yard of throw-out aerial is necessary, whilst the recommended length for best overall results (long and medium waveband) is approximately six yards.

## Circuit Details

The full circuit diagram is shown in Fig. 1. The aerial feeds the control grid of V1 (6BA6) in conventional manner, but the grid bias of this valve is fixed by R3 ( 100 ohms) and volume control is by means of varying the screen potential via R1 ( 2 megohm potentiometer), and R2 ( 47 K ).

V2 (Z77) is H.F. transformer-coupled to V1 and is operated as an anode-bend detector. In this arrangement a low anode and screen voltage are necessary for correct operation. R4 ( 2.2 Meg ) and R5 (470 K), shunted by $\mathrm{C} 6(.1 \mu \mathrm{~F})$, regulate the screen, whilst R6 ( 680 K ) and C7 (.1 $\mu \mathrm{F}$ ) help to smooth and by-pass unwanted responses from the main H.T. line. R7 ( 1 Meg ) is the anode load and C9 ( 250 pF ) is for the purpose of by-passing the residual R.F. components to chassis.
$V 3$ (ECL80) is used as a two-stage L.F. amplifier and the signal is passed to the triode control grid via Cl 10 (.01 $\mu \mathrm{F}$ coupling condenser). The lower end of R9 ( 680 K grid leak) is taken to a tapping point (two separate resistors) between cathode of ECL80 and chassis. As this valve has a "common" cathode for bo:h triode and pentode sections, the

path along R12 provides bias for the triode section whilst the path R12+R13 provides bias for the pentode output section. The cathode by-pass condenser C12 ( $500 \mu \mathrm{~F} 12 \mathrm{v} . \mathrm{w}$.) , is unusually large, but is highly desirable from the point of view of stability. The anode of the triode section is fed from R10 ( 220 K ) and the signal passed by Cll to the

## Construction

Immediately beneath the circuit diagram (Fig. 1) will be seen coil diagrams and valve base connections. These are placed in correct juxtaposition and tally
with the circuit at their respective situations. It should not, therefore, be difficult for the veriest novice to interpret commections from this diagram and by consulting Fig. 2 which gives complete component positioning, both above and below the chassis. A small sheet of aluminium will be needed for cutting to shape and drillto suit the three valves. This has been made quite clear in Fig. 2, but some retailers sell small metal "adap-


Fig. 4. --Vatr tors" to take these
control grid of the pentode. Grid continuity to chassis is via R14 (470.K).

It will be noted that the anode of the pentode is fed directly from the junction with the metal rectifier. A resistor RII ( 680 K ) between the two anodes of the ECL80 provides a mild form of negative feedback. Smoothing is effected by means of C15 and C14 $(32-32 \mu \mathrm{~F})$ in conjunction with R15 (2.7 K). R16 (100 ohms) is a surge limiter which safeguards the receiver in the event of a short-circuit developing in C14-C15, or elsewhere along the main H.T. line. C 16 (.01 $\mu \mathrm{F} 1,000$ rolts test $)$ is to safeguard against modulation hum, which might otherwise be experienced on loud signals.

## PARTS IIST

(Resistors-all half-watt types.)
R1-2 Megolnm volume control with 2 -pole on/off switch.

| R2-47 K. | R10-220 K. |
| :---: | :---: |
| R3- 100 ohms. | RII-680 K. |
| R4-2.2 Mcg. | R12-220 ohms. |
| R5-470 K. | R13-270 ohms. |
| R6-680 K. | R14-470 K. |
| R7-1 Meg. | R15-2.7 K- |
| R8- 10 K . | R16-100 ohms. |
| R9-680 K. |  |
| (Condensers-350 v.w. | unless stated otherwise.) |
| C1--. 001 / F (mica). | $\mathrm{C} 11-.01 / \mu \mathrm{F}$ $\mathrm{C} 22-500 \quad \text { HF } \quad\left(\begin{array}{ll} 12 & \text { r.w. } \end{array}\right.$ |
| twin gang (with | with clip. |
| trimmers). | C13-.01 $\quad 4 \mathrm{~F}$. |
| C3-. $1{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{F}$. | C14 and C15-32-32 $\mu \mathrm{F}$. |
| C 4 -. $1 / \mathrm{F}$. | Elect. 1 clip (for same). |
| C6-. $1{ }_{\mu} \mathrm{F}$. | C16-. $01 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ mica (1,000 |
| C 7 -. 12 F . | volts fested). |
| C8-25 $\mu \mathrm{F}$ (12 v.N.). | Tr2-50 pF-i 50 pF trim- |
| C9-. $00025 \mu \mathrm{~F}$. | mers. |
| C10-. 01 „ F . |  |

C10-. 01 ${ }^{\prime} \mathrm{F}$.
smaller valves over existing 1.O. cutouts, and this may be preferred by some readers.

Certain small holes will have to be drilled in the chassis apart from those already provided, but no difficulty should be encountered. A hole of about $\frac{1}{4} \mathrm{in}$. diameter should be drilled in the rear of the chassis where the H.F. coil is mounted horizontally. Th is should be made central to the coil mounting for adjusting the iton core of the coil later on during alignment.


Fig. 3. - Modification fo


The best type of alignment tool for small ironcored tuning coils is a broken plastic knitting needle which has been sharpened, cut or filed at one end to screwdriver (wedge) shape.

Photographs may show two
one side of each valve heater is taken directly to chassis, likewise one side of the filament transformer secondary ( 6.3 volt) winding and one side of the primary winding (mains input end). The beginṇer will have to be careful here, as it is very easy to omit this metal rectifiers under the chassis, but a single rectifier of $250 \mathrm{v} . \mathrm{w}$. at 50 mA will be quite adequate and only one is shown in the component layout and the parts list.
The valves have

e tase data.

r A.C. D.C. working.

of the A.C. Straight 3'4.


Top view of the receiver.
wiring. It will be realised that unless one side of the mains input is taken to chassis there will be no reference point from which the rectifier can derive the necessary high tension voltage.

In the D.C. (or Universal) arrangement all the heaters are series connected in the order shown in Fig. 3 and in wiring up the receiver it is wise policy to start on the heater wiring at the outset, with the valve biasing arrangements following. In this way we not only have room above these components for mounting other parts but safeguard the valves from faulty operating conditions. It is a good plan to take time in assembly and wire one stage completely at a time, say, from the mains input through the valves from V3 to V1 and aerial, leaving such things as the speaker, ganged condenser and tuning coils

## (Miscellaneous)

MR-250 v. $\mathbf{5 0} \mathbf{m A}$. contact-cooled metal rectifier (Selenium).
T1-Filament Transformer (Secondary, 6.3 volts 1.5 amps .).

T2-L'S Output trans. ( 10,000 ohms $/ 3$ olms).
2 Valveholders B7G.
I Valveholder B9A.
I Value 6BA6.
1 Valve Z77.
1 Valve ECL80.
I Pair dual range coils type Tcletron A/HF (200/2,000 metres).
1 Cabinet, T.R.F. chassis, dial, backplate, pointer, drum drive, drive spindle and cord.
Screws, Hex, etc.
1 Wavechange switch (2 polc/2 way).
1 Loudspeaker 5in. (Goodmans).
NOTE: For "Universal " version om:t filament transformer from above and substitute line cord in accordance with Fig. 3.
unmounted until later, as these are components most vulnerable and liable to damage.

## Trimmers

Although the trimmers for the coils are not shown in the circuit diagram they appear in Fig. 2. The medium-wave trimmers are combined with and will be found surmounting the twin-gang tuning condenser. The long-wave trimmers are mounted on the underside of chassis at an angle and by means of a single screw through the front plate. These are labelled $\operatorname{Tr} 2$. In order to help the beginner a diagram
is included showing the disposition of the long wave trimmers together with Sw. 1 (wavechange switch) and associated wiring (Fig. 4).

## Alignment

When the receiver has been compietely wired we can proceed with alignment, but beginners must be warned ugainst switching on and rouching the chassis until thej' have determined and made certain that the neutral lead from the mains supply is in contact with the chassis at that time.
(Contitued on page 545)


Fig. 2. -Top and underside wiring diagrams.


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Volume Controls I．ag．ratios， 10,000 ohras －2．Megohms．Long spiucles． guarantec．Midget Eear wan type．
So．रक्，S．P．Sw．J．P．sw． $\begin{array}{ccc}3 & 4 / 9 \\ \text { J．inear Ratio，} & 20,000\end{array}$ bhus－ty Megohms， Jows switch，4i－each． Coax plugs．1／2．Cobr sockets， $1 /-$ Couplers 13．Outlet boxes． $4 / 6$ ．

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| :---: |

9d．yd．
TWN FEEDER 80 ohme．6d．yil．；Sn0 ohmes， $8 \mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{yd}$ ． TWIN SGREEN FEEDER，sif uhtms， $1,3 \mathrm{yd}$ ． 50 OHM COAX CABLE 8d，preyd．In．ilia，
 1．3＂pia， $13 ;$ RESISTORS－Fruf．valite 10 ohtilg lo megohns． CARBON WIRE－WOUND $20^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$ T $t$ u．，5d．${ }^{\frac{1}{2}}$ w．，3d．
 $5^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}$ Type．$\frac{1}{2}$ w．．． $1 /-$ winE－WOUND POTS． Pre－sit Uin．T．V．Type． Knurled slotted Knob． All vilutues 25 uhms to 30 K．．3／－ea．$\quad 010$ K．．4／－． bitto Carbon Track CONDENSERS．－Mica or s．Mica，All pref，valueg，
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 $\therefore$ Hintu，1，9 1 1，500 v．T．C．（（fimples）， $3 / 6$
 SILVER MICA CONDENSERS．－－

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The best means I can recommend is for the amateur to purchase one of the excellent screwdriver-cumneon testers advertised in these pages. If the chassis is alive the neon will light; in such cases either reverse the plug or reverse the wires to conform.

Although coils are obtained as "matched pairs" it will be realised that two separate coils on a single former can hardly be accurately matched over two wavebands when tuned by a single iron core. Therefore some slight compromise is necessary in order to accommodate the long waveband and yield a satisfactory overall performance.

The receiver should be switched on and tuned in to the local station (in the Home Counties-the Light Programme). Adjust trimmers above the ganged tuning condenser until the tuning pointer is approximately at the correct location in respect to the dial. Now swing the tuning condenser to the top end of the waveband and tune in the Third Programme. Adjust the iron cores on both coils until the programme comes through at good strength. Return again to the station first tuned and further adjust the trimmers on the gang for best results. Switch to long waveband (clockwise direction) and tune in the Light Programme. Adjust the iron cores on both coils for maximum signal. Turn tuning to approximate position of Radio Luxembourg (Continental Programme) and adjust the two trimmers $\operatorname{Tr} 2$ on underside of chassis for maximum signal. Return tuning to Light Programme and re-adjust iron cores. Tune in Radio Allouis and further adjust cores for maximum signal.

This is only intended as a rough guide to alignment and any finer adjustments should be made in the order set down above. Final adjustments will, of course, be made on Continental stations at the lower end of the medium waveband with the volume control well advanced.

## Microphony

It is not unusual for constructors of straight receivers to experience microphony in the detector valve. This is, in effect, a physical and electrical phenomenon, wherein actual vibration of the valve sets up oscillation within the valve and an increasingly loud "howl" or " ringing" comes from the loud-
speaker. If the valve is lightly tapped the speaker appears to "echo" the generated note. In such cases it is usual either to change the valve for one less susceptible or mount the valveholder in the chassis with small rubber grommets to give a " floating" or shock-absorbing action to the valve suspension. This damps down the vibration and usually cures the trouble.


Fig. 4. - Further wiring details. See also Fig. 2.

## Modifications

There are two points at which useful modifications can be made. Should a set suffer from microphony in $\mathrm{V} 2(\mathrm{Z} 77)$ a reduction in the screen voltage of this valve may effect a cure. This can be done by changing R5 $(470 \mathrm{~K})$ to one of lower resistance. A suggested value is 220 K which has been tried in the original model. The resistance quoted in the parts list gave maximum sensitivity without microphony occurring (optimum results).

A nother change which can be made (should the set be considered too sensitive) is in R15 (2.7 K). This can be satisfactorily increased to as much as 10 K with perhaps a slight improvement in quality. A resistor of 1 watt rating here will keep quite cool.

## Ceramic Valves

VALVES of this design are to-day becoming popular, and will no doubt supersede their glass counterparts within the very near future. They are preferred in equipments designed for use at the higher frequencies, but are at present outside the range of the amateur's pocket : nevertheless, as and when they come within that range, they will be ideal for the constructor of V.H.F. equipment.

The advantages of such valves over those of glass are that of higher permissible operating temperature and much better dielectric properties. Such valves, however, utilise a ceramic envelope or bulb in place of the conventional glass one, the vacuum tight seal being made by coating the ceramic with a thin metal film which in turn is sintered or fired on as the case may be, and to this metal film which becomes an integral part of the ceramic the metal seal is brazed.

Disc seal or planar'type of valve is best suited
for this type of construction and provides such advantages as low interlectrode capacities, low lead inductance and electrode insulation.

Valves of this category are most suitable for use in cavity or parallel line circuitry and are also to be found in power amplifier, oscillator and frequency multiplier circuits. They operate at temperatures in the order of 200 deg. C. and at frequencies from 1,000 to $3,000 \mathrm{Mc} / \mathrm{s}$.
One will therefore appreciate that such valves will undoubtedly play an important part in all future V.H.F. development.
E. G. Bulley.

## THE SUPERHET MANUAL

5th Impression
By F. J. CAMM
$7 / 6$, by post $7 / 10$
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GEORGE NEWNES, LTD.
Tower House, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2.
 painful to listen to, and ashamed to recall. We had plenty of it, of course, but what there was seemed much more properly in focus and proportion to the things that really nattered. Probably among these must rank the 21st birthday of that most lovable and ubiquitous character, Donald Duck, whose voice was specially transmitted from America. Point was propzrly made of the great development in road transport, but none of the 7,000 who, at that time, were killed annually.

This series is not without interest, but like many other features of long standing, badly needs its windows opened to let in some fresh air.

## Burgundian Songs and Dances

A wholly delightful programme of Burgundian Songs and Dances Royales restored our faith in the matters of broadcasting and showed us that if we glean the programmes thoroughly, gold can be found here and there. Gíven by The Well-tempered Singers with treble recorder, and the London Consort of Viols, with medieval drums, we were transported back for 45 minutes to the world of the troubadour and the minniesinger with the rare privilege of being able to think and imagine for ourselves.

## Northampton Rep. Company

The Northampton Repertory Company gave us the charming play of Cedric Wallis, built round an cpisode in "Pride, and Prejudice," "The Heiress of Rosings." Containing some of the most wierd and wonderful music lessons ever held-as romantic and delightful as they were unpractical and useless musically, the Northampton people played with the greatest sense of period and general accomplishment. Josephine Martin was delightful as Anne and Tenniel Evans as Mr. Barcy and Alan Brown as the Marquis of Chippenham.

Two honest-to-goodness, forthright and down to earth pieces were Farquhar's Restoration "The Recruiting Officer " and Bekker"s contemporary with Shakespeare "The Honest Whore." The latter was divided over two evenings. In those days when women, not exactly " all they should be," formed the theme of discussion, a thesaurus of adjectives, nouns and various other expletives poured forth of a directness, an uninhibitedness, a luscious descriptiveness and in an unending quantity and variety such as seems to be unknown to-day in any subject. The mind boggles at such richness, diversity and salacity. Yet neither saturation point nor satiety are ever reached. On they go, out they come. It is all vastly amusing and entertaining.


Not all the 35 players, plus supers, in these two pieces struck quite the right period note, but one remembers Howieson Culff, Mary Wimbush, Charles Leno, Michael Turner in "The Bekker," and of the Queen's Repertory Players, Hornchurch, in " The Farquhar," Mary Savidge, James Maxwell, Diana Fairfax and Bernard Cribbins.

## Lenin's Journey

"Lenin`s Journey," from exile in Germany back to Russia under German auspices and protection, and with the avowed hope that by stirring up revolution there it would take Russia out of the war and thus assure the defeat of England in the First World War. formed the theme of a major documentary. Written by David Woodwood, narrated by Carleton Hobbs and Edward Ward, and produced by Marjorie Ward. That it resulted in probably the most far-reaching event in history few will deny; whether Germany was hoist with her own petard has perhaps not yet been established: the programme was interesting and at times dramatic, rather-through the events described than any virtues of production or script. These strictly adhered to the age-old pattern long since formulated for such programmes.

## Rain

I wonder if there will ever be a cricket commentary in which, as soon as the first drops of rain begin to fall. we shall not be told "that everyone is standing up putting on their mackintoshes "!

## Saturday Night Theatre

"The Comfort of the Signora " (suggested subtitle, "There's Always a Woman "), in Saturday Night Theatre, entertainingly told of turpitude in Tunisia, adultery in Algeria and, if you care for metaphors, flirtations in French North Africa. The French. however, were non-participants. One has met Brigadiers, if you have been in the Army, like Brigadier Polgrim, excellently played by Howard Marion Crawford, as well as women. if you have been anywhere beyond the front gate, like Sheila Saxleybrought to life by Violet Loxley. But Major Grail, a town major-well played by Edward Jewesburywas, to one listener, rather a new type. The story of a woman so bad that she won't let the guileless major ruin himself by marrying her (he seems to find quick and ample consolation with the signora at the curtain) was well told and made good entertainment.


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By Gordon J. King, A.M.I.P.R.E.

pressure on the contacts is secured when the switch is reassembled. This operation can be performed without taking the wires from the switch tags.

Instability is sometimes caused by the $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F} \mathrm{V1}$ screen capacitor losing valuc or becoming opencircuit. Lack of signals on both bands should lead to investigation of the 100 pF oscillator grid coupling capacitor and valve V1.

## The I.F. Stage

The signals in I.F.T.I are carried to the control grid of the l.F. amplifier valve V2 ( 12 K 7 GT ), and they are redeveloped in amplified form across the 1.F. coil (I.F.T.2) in the anode circuit, which is perneability tuned.

Several cases of low sensitivity have been traced to an alteration in the value of the 100 pF capacitor serving to fix-tune the I.F. coil. This should be suspected, particularly if the tuning of T9 appears very flat. No standing bias is given to V2 and the screen is fed direct from the H.T. line. The $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor, shown connected between the screen and chassis, serves to clear R.F. from the H.T. line ; the $4 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ electrolytic is an H.T. smoother.

## The Detector, A.V.C. and A.F. Amplifier Stage

The signals in the I.F. coil are coupled to the signal diode of V 3 through a 100 pF capacitor. The detector load comprises the 100 K resistor and the 500 K volume control in series. I.F. filtering is performed by the 100 pF shunt capacitor. Since the voltage appearing at the top end of the volume control has a magnitude depending on the strength of the I.F. signal. and is negative relative to chassis, it is used as an A.V.C. bias and is fed to valves V 1 and V2. As this makes the A.V.C. diode in V3 redundant, this electrode is put at chassis potential.
The A.F. signals across the volume control are carried through the $0.05 \mu \mathrm{FA}$ A.F. coupling capacitor to the grid of the triode section, where they are amplified and re-appear across the 680 K resistor in the anode circuit. The 100 pF capacitor, between anode and chassis, serves to filter any I.F. which may be present at this point.

The loss of bass, accompanied by distortion on strong signals, is often attributable to the anode load resistor going high in value. A delayed action when the volume control is rotated, should lead one to suspect the 6.8 megohm grid resistor for a value increase. If the l.F. coupling capacitor becones leaky,

a positive voltage is reflected on the control grids of V1 and V2, and the detector circuit is also severely disturbed. This may cut-off reception altogether; though if the leak is only slight, clipping will be noticed on the weaker stations.

## The Output Stage and Power Circuits

The A.F. signals in V3 anode circuit are taken by way of the $0.05 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ coupling capacitor and a resistive potential divider to the control grid of the output valve V4 (35L6GT). Negative feed-back is given to this stage by the undecoupled 220 ohm cathode resistor.
If distortion is suspected, the cathode voltage should be metered with the volume turned right down; the coupling capacitor should then be disconnected from the grid circuit of $\mathrm{V}_{4}$, and if this causes a reduction in cathode voltage, the coupling capacitor should be replaced.

The valve heaters and pilot bulb are connected in series, together with a 700 ohm resistor which forms a section of a three-core 0.15 amp . line cord, across the mains supply. Mains is also connected, through a 100 ohm surge limiting resistor, to the anode of the rectifier valve V5 (35Z4GT). The rectified voltage at the cathode is smoothed and filtered by C3, C4 and the associated 1.2 K resistor. Additional filtering for the first three valves is provided by the 4.7 K resistor in the H.T. line.

Should investigation for complete failure reveal the 100 ohm surge limiter resistor burnt out, a check should be made for short-circuits on the H:T. line, a short in V5, and for a short-circuit in the $0.02 \mu \mathrm{~F}$ capacitor connected between the anode of V 5 and chassis. If the 1.2 K filter resistor is burnt out, check C3 for leakage.

If the valves fail to light when the receiver is switched on, check the valve heaters, pilot bulb and line cord resistance for continuity. The on-off switch (ganged to the volume control) might have failed, of course, but this rarely happens.

## Circuit Alignment

Connect an output meter across the loudspeaker speech
(Continued on page 553)

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coil, or an A.C. voltmeter, via suitable isolating capacitors, between the anode of V4 and chassis. As this set has a " live" chassis, the signal generator should be connected through $0.0051,000$ volt isolating capacitors. When making tests it is advisable to ensure that the chassis is in connection with mains neutral.

## 1.F. Alignment

Tunc the set to the low-frequency end of the L.W. band and set volume control at maximum. Remove the existing connector to the top cap of V1 (signal grid) and connect a 100 K resistor between grid and chassis. Apply a 455 modulated signal to the top cap and adjust T9, T8 and T7 (Fig. 3) for maximum output.

## R.F. and Oscillator, Alignment

Check that the dial pointer coincides with the dividing Iines between the M.W. and L.W. calibration scales when the tuning gang is fully closed. Adjust if necessary.

## Medium Wave

Tune the receiver to 214 metres, inject a $1,420 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$ modulated signal, via a dummy aerial, to the receiver


Figs. 2 \& 3.-Top and bothom chassis viens.
aerial terminal. Adjust T3 and T2 (Fig. 3) for maximum output. Ture the receiver to $500^{\prime}$ metres and the generator to $600 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Adjust T5 (Fig. 3) for maximum output. Repeat at 214 metres and at 500 metres for maximum accuracy.

## Long Wave

Tune the receiver to 750 metres and the generator to $400 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Adjust T4 and T1 for maximum .output. Tune the receiver to 2,000 metres and the generator to $150 \mathrm{kc} / \mathrm{s}$. Adjust T6 for maximum output. Repeat at 750 metres and 2,000 metres for maximum accuracy.

## Radio Sales Up

RETAIL sales of radio and television receivers improved in June as compared with May, according to the monthly retail survey published, as we go to press, by the British Radio Equipment Manufacturers' Association, and were higher than in June last year. Radiogram sales were the same as in May and lower than in June, 1955.

Sales for the first half-year of 1956, compared with 1955, were down, however, by 19 per cent. for
radio receivers and 40 per cent. for radiógrams.

## Rece:vers

Sales of 80,000 radio receivers in June showed an increase on May of 14 per cent. and 8 per cent. on June, 1955. During the first and second quarters of 1956 sales were down by 30 per cent. and 6 per cent., respectively, compared with 1955 . For the half-year, January/June, 1956 relail sales of radios were 19 per cent. less than for the corresponding period in 1955.

## Rediograms

Radiogram sales continued to show a relatively greater fall as between 1956 and 1955 than either radio or television receivers. June salces at 11,000 were the same as in May, but 15 per cent. less than in June, 1955. During the first quarter of this year radiogram sales were half those for the first quarter of 1955 , but recovered during the second quarter to 18 per cent. below those for the last year. The resulting percentage fall for the half-year was 40 per cent. compared with 1955.

## Radio and Television

The proportion of total radio and television receiver salés on hirepurchase or credit terms showed increases of 3 per cent. in June compared with May. Nevertheless, as between June, 1955, and 1956, the proportion fell from 40 per cent. to 34 per cent. for radio. For radiograms the proportion remained in June at 58 per cent., compared with 67 per cènt. "in "June, 1955.

# The R.1155 Communications Receiver 

MODIFICATIONS TO THIS POPULAR EX-GOVERNMENT UNIT

By K. A. Brook<br>(Continued from page 466 Scptember Issue)

## Noise

This receiver has achieved a certain amount of notoriety as being a " noisy" receiver. The noise is apparent even, to a certain extent, on quite powerful medium wave stations. The noise is mainly due to the R.F. stage (VI), and this can be reduced by substituting a resistor of about 68 K in the screen circuit of V 1 in place of the 27 K already fitted. However, it so reduces the sensitivity of the set that this modification would be impracticable, bearing in mind weak stations.

Various means have been devised to combat this noise, but a fairly easy and effective method can be based on the idea in the previous paragraph, but instead of a fixed resistor, a potentiometer is fitted. The circuit is shown in Fig. 9.

This entails removing the 27 K screen dropper resistor already fitted and replacing with one of 120 K . This value is not critical, but should not be less than 100 K . The potentiometer may be fitted in the place previously occupied by the " Meter Balance " control. This potentiometer will, of course, vary the screen voltage of the valve, which affects three things :

1. The sensitivity of the circuit.
2. The mutual conductance of the valve.
3. The signal-to-noise ratio.

If the control is moved in the direction of the arrow, the screen voltage is increased, the mutual conductance of the valve is increased at the cost of a lower signal-to-noise ratio, i.e., the circuit becomes more noisy.

The screen voltage for the 6 K 7 with an anode voltage of 250 volts is 125 volts, and it is this which decides the value of R76. It was not thought desirable to increase the screen voltage above 125 volts.

If the slider is moved in the opposite direction, the signal-to-noise ratio is improved accompanied by a reduction in gain and sensitivity. This control could then be labelled "R.F. gain " or " sensitivity." It should be adjusted in conjunction with the volume-control for adequate volume with minimum noise.

## Crash Limiter

This refinement is designed to clip peaky pulses which exceed the 100 per cent. modulation level. It usually accomplishes this by rendering the set inoperative for the duration of the

## COMPONENTS (Fig. 9) V1-6K7.

C39-0.1 $\mu \mathrm{F} 350 \mathrm{v}$.
R44-22 K $20 \%$ Erie Types. R76-120 K 20\% Erie Type 8. R77-100 K Potentiometer linear.
Note.- The arrow denotes clockwise rotation of control.


Fig. 9.-Modified screeir circuit of R.F. amplifier.
pulse, either by passing the signal to earth or by a series device which is made non-conducting by the pulse. This is not noticeable in the reproducing device, as the ear is not sensitive to breaks of such short duration.

The author considers this to be an essential modification if 'phones are to be used, as he himself has suffered some extremely uncomfortable moments with large amplitude interference pulses.

Some limiters are of a fixed variety whilst others are variable, ihe adjustment being made by means of a potentiometer. This varies the Icvel at which the limiter comes into operation, and should te adjusted so that it limits at just over 100 per cent. modulation. If turned too far it will clip off parts of the signal, thus causing distortion.

In the author's experience the only really useful crash limiter is the circuit included in the famous R.C.A. AR88 receivers, and it was decided, therefore, to employ this circuit which uses a double diode valve ( 6 H 6 ).

Unfortunately, this modification involves rather drastic alterations to the detector circuit. Firstly, we must forgo ourselves the rather doubtful pleasure of the filter which was designed to filter out various forms of interference generated by aircraft electrical equipment, but the writer found it to b: of no value for ground use. It is a high-pass filter having a cut-off frequency of $300 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$. It consists of C8, C9, C10 and the inductor, L29 (see Fig. 10). The inductor is (Continued on page 557)

tig. 10.-Filter circuit.

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situated on the rear of the front panel between the volume-control and the handle on the left-hand side as seen from the front. From this the relevant capacitors and the switch can be located and removed. It should be noted that C96 is still in circuit and this should be checked when the switch S 5 is removed.

The crash limiter as it fits into the R1155 circuit is shown in Fig. 11.
The valveholder used is that which was occupied by DF3 in Fig. 2.

Difficulty may be experienced in obtaining a 66 K potentiometer. The values are not critical, although the ratio of resistors should be maintained. Thus, if a 50 K potentioneter is used, R79 should be reduced to 25 K , and if a 100 K potentiometer is used, R 79 should be made 50 K .

It is recommended that this circuit be built in first and the original detector circuit modified afterwards.

A Morganite potentiometer is recommended. Type LHNAR as this type is physically small and can be fitted in the "Meter Amplitude" control space without difficulty, although any midget type wou'd do as well. A normal-sized control is too large to fit in this space.

When the limiter circuit has been built in, it can now be connected into the main circuit. On the tag strip under the output transformer (chassis inverted) will be found the components which it is necassary to $\angle 30 \mathrm{O}$
Fig. 12.-Thi origial cletearir circuit. W6


COMPONENTS (Fig. 12)
Components to lie removed are underlined, except for those in the Filter Circuit, which will already have been dealt with but is included here for completeness.

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { R8 (b)-500 } \\ & \text { Volume. } \end{aligned}$ | K, | L.30-Phone Transformer. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R20-56 K. |  |  |
| R21-470 K. |  | C96-0.02 /F. |
| (267-22 K. |  | L29-Filter In- |
| R26-100 K. |  | C8, C9, C10- |
| C6- 100 pF . |  | Filter com- |
| C1I--100 pF. |  | ponents. |

remove. One of the! eads from IFT3 will be found to terminate at a $56 \mathrm{~K} \Omega 2$ resistor on the abovementioned tag strip. This resistor along with a $470 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ resistor on the same tag panel are removed. The other two components which are no longer required are a 100 pF capacitor which is connected between one end of the


```
ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS (Fig. 11) R78-66 K Potentiometer Carbon.-
R79-33 K 10\% Erie Type 9. -
R80-680 K \(20 \%\) Erie Type 9.
R81-560 K \(20 \%\) Erie Type 9.
C115-100 pF Mica 20 \({ }^{\circ}{ }^{\circ}\).
C116-0.1 \(\quad\) F 350 v. \(20 \%\).
S6-S.P.D.T. Toggle Switch.
V10-6H6.
Note.-All other components are already included.
```



Fig. 13.-R.C. coupled output siage.
ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS (Fig. 13)
R82 - 470 K 20\% Erie Type 9.
R83-100 K 20\% Erie Type 9.
C117-0.1 $\mu \mathbf{F} 350$ volt working.
Note.-R82 replaces R71 in Fig. 5. All other components as in Fig. 5.
$56 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ resistor and chassis, and a $22 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ resistor which is in series with the volume control $R 8$ (b) and a 0.02 , F capacitor C 96 , which was originally on the filter tag panel. This will leave a black wire which should be traced through the grommet hole and cut off at the tag panel underneath the output transformer. The original detector circuit is reproduced in Fig. 12. Components underlined are those which are to be removed. Do not remove any components connected (1) the cathode ( pin 8 ) of the double diode triode
and off frequency when using the B.F.O. the adjusting capacitor C13 on the front panel should be trimmed as follows :-

1. Tunc in a steady strong station, using the magic eye.
2. Switch on the "Het. Osc." and adjust C13 for note of about $1,000 \mathrm{c} / \mathrm{s}$, without moving the matin tuning knob
3. Should there be insufficient adjustment the B.F.O. coil (122) will require adjustment. Romove

TABLE 1. Valve voltages and currents.

| Valve | Electrode | Voltage <br> Volume control Max. | Voltage Volume control Min. | Current Vol.Cont. Max. | Current Vol. Cont. Min. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VI | Anode | 174 | 200 | 6.6 | 0.9 |
|  | Screen | 57 | $78$ | - |  |
| 12 | Hexode An. | 184 | $202$ | 1.0 | 0 |
|  | Screen | 54 | 81 | - | - |
|  | Triode An. | 63 | 68 | 5.7 | - |
| V3 | Anodé | 174 | 202 | 5.7 | 0.1 |
|  | Screen - | 59 | 78 | - | - |
| V4 | Anode | 174 | 192 | 6.9 | 5.0 |
|  | Screen | $57$ | $70$ | - | -8 |
| V5 | Anode | 124 | $134$ | 4.4 | 4.8 |
|  | Cathode | $6.8$ | $7.5$ | $\overline{93}$ | - 9.6 |
| V6 | Anode | $\begin{array}{r} 182 \\ -\quad 34 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 198 \\ -23 \end{array}$ | 9.3 | 9.6 |
|  | Cathode | --34 | -23 |  |  |

(V6). They are not shown in Fig. 11 and Fig. 12, but this is merely for simplicity. The limiter should now be tested.

This circuit, unfortunately, results in a loss of A.F. gain due to the $66 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ and $33 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ " potentiometer" chain, and if this loss is considered too much, a separate diode should be used for the detector with its cathode connected to H.T.-. A miniature type of valve would be suitable, c.g;, an EA50. Then the remaining triode section should be replaced by a pentode, for which suitable types are 6J7, EF36, EF37 and EF37A, and this should compensate for the loss in gain.

Should it be decided to let the circuit of V6 stand, an improvement may be brought about by removal of the 'phone output transformer (L30 in Fig. 10 and Fig. 11). This could be replaced by a resistance capacitance coupling. This affects mainly Fig. 5 and the output stage with its modified coupling appears in Fig. 13.

This brings to an end the modifications which the author incorporated in his own receiver, but other readers may wish to take things further such as the filling of an " $S$ " meter. However. it must be botne in mind that the receiver was intended for use on commercial speech, and because of this the bandwidth of the receiver is limited to $5 \mathrm{Ke} / \mathrm{s}$ maximum, and is in no way a "quality" receiver.

## General Notes on the Recciver

The original receiver was run from a machinc in the aireraft which delivered 220 volts at 1.10 mA for H.T. and this should be noted when the following table of valve voltages and currents is consulted. These readings may, of course, be subject to some variation

## Notes on the Heterodyne Oscillator

If it is noticed that the heterodyne note is weak
top cover of the box and put C13 half-way in nesh. Check the core of $\mathbf{L 2 2}$ moves easily. If not, relcase the locking compound by careful application of heat. Replacelid. Repeat (1), switch on "Het. Osc.". and adjust the core of 122 until a position of zero beat is obtained.
4. Rotate C13 clockwise until a note of $1,000 \mathrm{c}, \mathrm{s}$ is obtained.

## Some fault-finding tests

NO SIGNALS.
(i) Magic eye glows red.

This means that H.T. is off the receiver. Check F1, and if open circuit, check C113 and C114, for short circuit.
(To be contimed)

## The Simplicity Transistor Two

ANUMBER of readers have queried the cireuit which was given last month on page 450 . The positive side of the two batteries was shown in Fig. 2 as being joined together, under which condition, of course. the first transistor will not work. The connection between the batteries should be rensoved and a corrected circuit is given below.


Correctel Circuit of the Simplicity- Tiansistor Two.
 size 153 in . long $\times 13^{3} \mathrm{in}$. back to front id panelled in beige leatherette. Two large storage cupboards. Speaker chamber large enough for 12 in . speaker, overall cabinet size 35 in . high, 34 in . long, $16 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{in}$. deep.


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# A Noiseless Organ Control <br> AN INGENIOUS VOLUME OR SWELL CONTROL FOR AN ELECTRONIC ORGAN <br> By J. Holden 

THE following is the result of many experiments conducted on an electronic organ to find a swell control which did not require constant attention. The basis of this control is to provide a completely Trictionless, and therefore non-wearing, control.

In this circuit a variable condenser is connected between anode and grid of the pre-amplifier stage; this provides feedback which tends to cancel the incoming signal. It is essential that this stage should be a pentode so as to keep the capacity of the variable condenser within reasonable limits. A great asset of this circuit is that it provides a progressive " top " cut very similar to the shutters of an organ swell-


The control in "Maximum" or loudest position.

## COMPONENTS REQUIRED

2-Three-gang 0005 variable condensers.
1-Valve (SP61, EF36, EF50, etc.). Any cquivalent.
1- Meg. anode load resistance.
2-. $01 /$ F condenser.
1-1,000 ohm resistance.
$1-50$ f. F bias condenser.
1-1 $1 \frac{1}{2}$ Meg, resistance.
1-1 $1 / \mathrm{F}$ condenser.
1-1 Meg. resistance.
box, and has been found to be effective with diapason tone down to 16 ft .

The essential components are a pair of three-gang variable condensers with the shafts coupled together. 1 am using two very old J.B. components, but

economy in space could be effected by using miniaturised condensers (variable). The possibility of using variable condensers with paxolin dielectric should not be ruled out.

No originality is clamed for the above as a similar idea is used on the Novachord, but the writer has-


The Control "Off" or in the position of mintimant tolume.
never seen any constructional details concerning this type of control: and after having made up every type to be found in any publication, has found the above to be perfect.

## PRACTICAL TELEVISION NOW ON SALE <br> SEPT. ISSUE PRICE 1/3d.

The current edition of our companion paper PRACTICAL TELEVISION which is now on sale describes the construction of a TV Wobbutator built round a single valve-an EF91. It is intended for use primarily with the TV oscilloscope recestlly described in "Practical Tclevision," but may, of coürse, be used in conjunction with any 'scope.

The other main feature is a detailed report of the various receivers to be scon at the Radio Show, but, of course, as with the radio receivers mentioned in this issute, due to the fact that Press date is in advance of the opening of the Shon, nothing can be said about the surprises which may appear this year. The Servicing articlo dcals with the Cossor 927, nhilst there is a very comprehonsive article on Acrials in Flats. Amongst the other con: structional features is a short article on the making of a Simple Aerial Attenuator, a Compact Band III Converter using a pair of EF50's and more "about the improved method of I.F. conversion $u$ fisch was described in the Aagust issue.

The usual features, Problems Solvcd, Underneath the Dipole and Teleners, complete this latest issue.

# Push-pull Amplification 

AN EXPLANATION AND A PRACTICAL AMPLIFIER EMPLOYING THE CIRCUIT

By R. Hindle<br>(Contimed from page 454, Seprember issmo)

THE thitd harmonic is kept down to a reasonably low figure and the even harmonic distortion is cancelled out in the transformer. In order still further to reduce the harmonic content of the ouput, however, the second new leature is introduced. A part of the signal from the secondary of the output transformer is fed back to the input of the first valve. This is done by introducing a small resistor, R15, into the cathode circuit of the first hatf of V1. This resistor, rogether with R14, forms a potentiometer across the secondary of the transformer and so has across it a part of the output signal which is thus included in series with the incoming signal from the coaxial socket as the input to V1. This feedback must be negative, i.e., it must oppose the incoming signal ; if it is connected positively the amplifier will tend (1) be unstable. The nature of feedback, whether posilive or negative, depends on which way round the ouput transformer is connected and if when the implifier is tested it is found that the feedback is positive the connections to the secondary only of the transformer should be reversed. IY the output ransformer is of poor quality instability will be experienced either way the transformer secondary is connected due to the phase-shift introduced at some freguencies by the component itself and in this case the only measure, apart from obtaining a more sutitable transformer, is to reduce the amount of
feedback by increasing the size of R14. The specified transformer has the appropriate taps for the screens and will permit a high degree of leedback without difficulty.

The thind feature is the use of D.C. coupling between the two halves of VI. In the ordinary way a capacitor would be used to couple the first anode to the second grid, but such a component causes phase shift which, like phase shift in the output transformer, can bring to naught one's attempts to improve fidelity by means of feedback. The only purpose of a coupling capacitor is 10 isolate the following grid from H.T. present at the anode. It so happens, however, in this circuit that the cathode of the second half of VI is at a potential well above earth due to R5 through which the anode current has to flow and the grid has also to be at a potential above earth by almost an equal amount because the standing bias between grid and cathode has to be only a few volts at mosi. If, therefore, the anode of $V 1$ first half can be made to be at the same voltage as the cathode of the second half (less sufficient for the standing bias) a direct connection can be made between the two electrodes.

Now the two halves of the double triode have similar characteristics and as both are to work linearly it is reasonable to assume that both halves
(Cuntinued on page 565)


Fig. 5.-The amplifier described here. A list of parts appears on the page 565.


TYPE U.IOI/S.S.
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Chassis Mounting Gang Condenser with Split-Stators, Ceramic Insulation. Cadmium Plated Chassis. Silver Plated Brass Rotor and Stator. Rotor earthed to Frame. Capacities available each half :-3-10 pr., 3.8-27 pf., $4-35 \mathrm{pf}$. or 4.43 pf .

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Price (less valves) P. \& P. 1/6. Strip is part of above equipment.

I'S.A. INDICATOR UNIT Complete BC'929.1 Complete with 3BPI C/R tube and screen. 7 valves 2-6SN7GT. 2-6H6GT, GG6. 2X2, 6X5G, volume controls. condensers. etc. Ideal for cortable 'scope. In black crackle case size $15 \frac{1}{2}$. $x$ 9in. x 0 in. BRAND NEW. 65:-, carr. FREE.

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0 C 71 or similar Transistors.

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## INPIC.ITOR INI'L' <br> 'riPE 189A

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will work with the same load, i.e., R3 will equal R4 plus R5. Supposing R3 is chosen to drop two-thirds of the total H.T.; leaving one-third ácross the valve itself. Then R5, carrying the samie current but being only a half of R3, will drop a third of the H.T. also and so will make the voltage required at the grid of this half about a third of the total H.T., and so this grid can be directly connected to the previous anode as desired. In this simple calculation the standing grid bias required can be ignored because it is so small compared with the H.T. and the second half of $V 1$ being in the nature of a cathode follower it will tend to pull itself into step when conditions are made approximately correct. The design procedure is, therefore, to examine the valve curves to see
conditions well clear of the grid current zone and which is chosen for the present case. The stage gain is then about 12 for the first half and, as already mentioned, about 1.8 for the second half. The output valves are Mullard EL84, giving 11 watts output and requiring 20 volts input signal peak grid to grid.

## LIST OF COMPONENTS FOR FIG. 6

C1-8 if 350 v. Dubilier BR<br>C2-. 1 /F 250 v. Dubilier 410<br>C3-50 $/ \mathrm{F} 50 \mathrm{v}$. Dubilier BR<br>C4-8 $\mu \mathrm{F} 350 \mathrm{v}$. Dubilier BR<br>C5-50 pF Dubilier ceramic<br>C6-1,000 pF Dubilier 400<br>C7-300 pF Dubilier 400<br>C8- $\mathbf{3 , 0 0 0}$ pF Dubilier 400<br>V-Brimar 6BR7<br>R1-1 M!<br>R2-220K $\Omega$<br>R3-2.2 K $\Omega$<br>R4-10 K $\Omega \quad$ Dubilier $!$ watt<br>$\mathrm{R6}-100 \mathrm{~K} \Omega \quad$<br>VR1- $\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{M} \Omega$ (with s.p. sw.) ) Oubilier<br>VR3-2 M $\quad$ ) type C.


if a suitably lincar part exists satisfying the stipulation that two-thirds of the H.T. should be dropped across the load and if this is so and there is some doubt about the conditions of working when the amplifier is built it is oniy necessary to insert a meter to check the current flowing through the second half to see if it conforms to the design figure decided upon, adjusting R3 if necessary to obtain correct conditions.

A Brimar 12AU7 valve is chosen for the double triode, keeping to modern miniatures in conformity with other designs of the series, and the maker's literature provides dynamic curves for loads of $47 \mathrm{~K} \Omega, 100 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ and $220 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ with a H.T. supply of 250 volts, such as is provided by this design. To drop 166 volts (two-thirds of the H.T. voltage) across 47 K! used in R3 position requires a current (by Ohmis Law) of 3.53 mA and it is seen fromi the curves for this valve that such a current would require quite a small grid voltage ( $-2 \frac{1}{2}$ volts), but the characteristic is quite linear. With 100 K ! Joad the current required is 1.7 mA and this requires a bias just over 4 volts, which keeps the operating

Fig. 6.-The Prc-amplifier.
The input to the first half of V1 is this figure divided by the gain in each previous stage, i.e.,
$\frac{20}{12 \times 1.8}$ i.e. about 1 volt peak, but the signal actually to be fed into the input socket is thịs voltage plus that fed back from the output transformer. The speaker for which this amplifier was primarily designed is the G.E.C. metal coned unit, about which more later, but of interest now is the speech coil impedance, to which the secondary of the transformer matches, of 4 ohms. At peak conditions 11 watts is available which, in a 4 ohm load represents a voltage of $6 \frac{1}{2}$ and the feedback potentiometer selects about a third of this, say 2 volts, to feed back. The input needed is of the order of 3 volts. A stage of amplification is normally use d before a çircuit of this kind, but in the present design this is made a separate unit including gain and tone controls,' so that it can be put in a place convenient for controls so that the bulk of the amplifier can bc

```
R1-4.7 M\Omega
R2-4.7 K!
R3-100 K!
R4--47 K!?
R5-47 K!?
R6-220 K!?
R7-220 K \Omega
R8-6.8 K!2 \frac{1}{2}}\mathrm{ watt Dubilier
```

R9-270 2
R10-270 $\Omega$
R11-6.8 K $\Omega$
R12-47 $\Omega$
R13-47!
R14-180!?
R15-68!
R16-10 K $\Omega 1$ watt . Dubilier

C1-50 /f 12 v. Dubilier BR C2-. 1 /F 350 v. Dubilier 410 C3-. $1 \mu \mathrm{~F} 350$ v. Dubilier 410 C5-50 $\mu \mathrm{F} 50 \mathrm{v}$. Dubilier BR C5-50 „F $50 v$. Dubilier BR C6. C7-16-8 , F 500 v. Dubilier CT
C8-16 $\mu \mathrm{F}$ Dubilier BR

V1-Brimar 6AU7
V2, V3-Mullard EL84
V4-Osram U709
1 choke, smoothing, WB 30/451) :
1 mains transformer WB 28/451) !
300-0-300 v. $110 \mathrm{~mA}, 6.3$ v., 6.3 v .

1 output Iransformer, Partridge : P2629
stowed away in the depths of the cabinet: this is much better than the common way of mounting it all on one chassis so that space at the control point in the cabinet has to be found for the whole of the hulky part of the amplifier. This amplifier, along with the preamplifier, makes an ideal unit for playing records with high quality. The main amplifier provides sufficient power for the preamplifier. which is led out via a socket similar to that used for the singleended output stages described earlier in the series.
This amplifier was tested out using the G.E.C. metal cone speaker unit, as previously mentioned. This is a very exceptional unit for high quality reproduction which should be used, preferably in one of the enclosures specially designed for it. A separate cabinet would then be needed for the amplifier and playing desk. Quite often such an arrangement is impracticable and a single cabinet has to house both speaker and amplifier equipment. Excellent results have also been obtained in this way also using the metal cone speaker. The speaker chamber should preferably be of a volume similar to that of the specially designed enclosure and should be of the solid backed lype with a vent, again following the lines of the special design. The G.E.C. is not really suitable unless the cabinet is such as to permit the reproduction of bass because its response extends so far into the higher audio frequencies and it is generally agreed that if bass is to be limited the treble should be similarly limited: the balance between upper and lower frequency range is more important from an audio point of view than the lop-sided cxtension of the frequency range. The G.E.C. unit, without the bass of which it is capable, sounds too high-pitched for comfort and there is little point in using the unit if its response is to be clipped att the upper as well as the lower cnd. The same jemarks apply where extended range is sought by mieans of a tweeter; a separate high note reproducer
should never be used unless the bass reproduction of the main speaker is sufficient to balance it.
There ate other high-fidelity speakers, of course. and many cheaper ones that are still capable of providing quite good quality. If an alternalive is used, however, its speech coil impedance may not be the same. A transformer of suitable ratio and with the necessary taps on the primary for the sereen grid connections which should be at a position as to include 43 per cent. of each half-primary between the H.T. centre-tap and the screen tap.

## Confrol Preamplifier

The circuit of the preamplitier unit containing the controls for the whole equipment is given in Fig. 6. It will be seen that a Brimar 6BR7 is used in a normal pentode circuit for audio amplification. The method of design of this part of the circuit was illustrated previously when a single-valve amplifier chassis was designed, though in this case a higher value of anode resistor has been used because the amplifier is feeding into a circuit of higher resistance than previously. The amount of gain overall is less in the present case than was required for the single-valve unit previously mentioned, which was intended to feed directly into an output valve requiring 12 volts peak signal, but the valve in the present case is still required to provide a high gain, because there is a signal loss in the tone control circuits to follow.
The signal output from the valve anode is divided illo two paths, through the leg containing VR2 and the leg containing VR3, being combined again by connecting the sliders of the two potentiometers logether to give the output signal for the main amplifier. When VR2 is moved to its lower end C6 is in parallel with the signal, attenuating the higher audio frequencies giving treble cut.
(To be contimued)


Fig. 7.-Layout and wiring of the amplifier.

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The Editor does not necesscrily agree with opinions expressed by his correspondents

## A 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Oscilloscope

SIR,-I am afraid that Mr. Tring, writing in "O, en to Discussion," September issue, seems to be labouring under a misapprchension coacerning the paraphase amplifiers in Mr. Couvela's osailloscope.

These "Schmitt PPAs" or ".Long-1ailed Pairs," as they are often called, do manage 10 achieve a very good balance in practice and are often used in radar indicators.

It seems that the main mistake Mr. Tring and others make when considering this cigcuit is the failure to consider the valve current of the second half also having to flow through the common cathode load. This very fact modifies the " cathode follower action " of the first half of the circuit.

V2 (second half) certainly could not have a greater signal input than the first half, because it is this part of the circuit which drives the second lialf, via the common cathode coupling and under no conditions could VI cathode output exceed the value of the input to its grid.

As for disconnecting. R2 and R5 and applying them to a positive potential from a potential divider there is no earthly reason, as the present bias system used by Mr. Couvela is perfectly satisfactory (and standard).

The only criticism that could be mentioned concerning the article in the July issue is the misprint of $C_{2}$ which should go to earth, of course. - K. SMITH G3JIX (Yakesbury).

## F.M. Results

SIR,--In reply to G. Prentis (Elstree), may I say that F.M. reception on my set is very good indeed. The radio incorporates " push button "wave change. As an experiment I have, just before writing, compared the F.M. with the M.W. and a slight, highpitched hum or whistle background reproduced on the M.W. is climinated on the F.M. band. Just a touch of more volume is required on the F.M. for similar M.W. audibility. When the tone control is adjusted there is no doubt whatsocver that the reproduction on the F.M. (apart from cutting out interference) really brings out the lifelike quality of transmission-especially is this so as regards stringed instruments. My experience is that the M.W. fails to reach this standard.

However, l am not quite trouble-free! A dry battery door bell in the house " sparks" through the F.M.

There is a built-in dipole in my radio-outdoor dipole aerial has not been fitted. For what it is worth, I have an indoor aerial, and to the best of my knowledge there is no passing car interference on the F.M. band.

Even if I had the technical knowledge, which ! have not, I rather think. from the information available, that it would be difficull to specify what is the fault factor on Mr. Prentis" F.M. band. But I would venture to say that radio without F.M. is obsoletc. Incidentally, my own set incorporating L.W., M.W., S.W., A.M./F.M. and glam and extension connestionse cost less than $£ 35$.

Howerer, one perhaps hould not expect perfection from V.H.F. and if in at locality there are consumers utilising works and household appliances etc. etc., emitting ultra short waves then radio reccption is in for a rough time. - F. Sfogwali (S.W.4).

## 1939 Poriable

SIR,-I agree with Mr. Shatwell in his letter (August issue), about the design of a compact pooket receiver. I myself constructed the GK7 (July, 1948, edition Practical Wireless) and the $4!-$ voli battery which powered this set (no H.T. supply was needed) soon had to be discarded as "tlat". This particular set measured $\frac{1}{2}$ in. smaller than Mi. Shatwells, measuring only. 4 in . $\times 3!\mathrm{in} . \times 2 \mathrm{in}$.

1 am quite interested in this side of radio and nould be pleased if Mr. Shatwell or one of your readers could supply me with circuit diagrams or, indeed, any orher midget or portable receivers.

I still possess a copy of the 6K7 circuit if anybody is interested. 1 am 13 ycars old.-D. OWEN:, 6 . Station Road, Melling, Nr. Liverpool.

## Amateur Tracking of "Mouse"

SIR,-Readers of your magazine will have read, with interest, of the scheme for launching the artificial satellites Mouse in connection with the forthcoming Geophysical Year. Many of them, like myself. are probably hoping that you will devote an article or a series of articles to this experiment and give us fuller information than can be gleaned from the newspapers, about the salcllites themselves, the course they will be likely to follow, and the electronic gear they will carry.

The apparatus which will be scquired for antomatic tracking is probably outside the scope of amateur construction. but it should not be impossible for amateurs living on or near the course of the satelites to receive their transmissions as they rass overhead. And since presumably each will take a different course. depending on the date and sime of day when it is released, a great many of us will sooner or later be correctly situated. Although there will be many official tracking stations in many countries, it may be that a mass of subsidiary reports from amateurs will be of value to those controlling the experiment.

If the signals are receivable by amateurs, they could be recorded on tape; details of the receiving gear and type of aerial in use, as well as exact geographical location, and an accutate time signal could be recorded on the same tape and these recordings night be more valuable than written reports since the experts would be able to compare such things as signal-to-noise ratio, rapidity and degree of fading, etc., in widely separated locations.

Even if it is considered that such amateur reports would not be of value, and maybe I have been presumptuous in suggesting it, 1 am sure many readers tvill want to make the experiment purely for their own satisfaction and as a matter of interest. I hope, therefore. that you will be able to give us some guidance on the type of signal which the satellites will transmit, the frequency or frequencies to be used, and on the kind of receiver and aerial which will be necessily.--A. P. Buchanan (Ayr).

## Mail Order Correspondence

SIR.-We have, for mahy years, through the medium of your magazines, conducted a successful Mail Order Service, but during this summer, when our staff are having their well-earned holidays, and we expected the usual lull of orders. we have received demands far in excess of anything we imagined.

Having returned urgently from our holidays my wife and I have with extra, but untrained labour, done our best to cope. We are succeeding but not yel back to our 24-hour service.

May we ask you to assist us, and I feel that alt mail order companies will agree that the readers who reply to advertisements, should print thei name and address in full, as every week our file of dead letters continues to grow, many contain money, some with the address missing, or iniomplete, others unreadable.
Summertime as with Christmas is a difficult period for the National Transporit people and occasions delays, that we have no control over, but they are doing their best.

## ADDING ANOTHER TRANSITOR STAGE

(Concluded from page 538)
lime the switch is pressed for a higher reading. If alter one second of steady reading the meter begins to crecp up to a higher reading, switch off and do not attempt any test at any higher reading. This applies to any transistor.
This creeping meter effect is a sure sign of overload and the commencement of the breakdown of a transistor, because the base begins to lose control for a steady reading, and diffusion of impurities has star:ed. There is no remedy for such damage. Max. mW is reduced and the life ol a mansistor is shontened.
But how can one be sure of not overloading any type of transistor when used in a receiver? The answer is the meter will flutter, and fidelity will not be perfect, at loud peaks. The output meter will also show wheiher the taps ratio for a speaker is suitable. If 100 many turns, are connected to a speaker, meter ivill jerk up to a higher reading at each peak sound.

We have recently doubled our retail shop premises, taking in No. 623. This should ease the Saturday queues, that have been a worry to us in the past.

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## Sensitive Two-valver

SIR,-l've just crashed out your sensitive twotell you it took two hours to make. I felt sure that some part would be wired wrong, but on switching on the set burst out in oscillation, but it wouldn't give any volume on a 1 ft . aerial. After a few trials I fiad 19ft. of P.V.C. bell wire gives more volume than one can call comfortable and has to be controlled by moving off-station. I can get Home and Light with good separation. One snag, any Hams within one mile transmitting on 80 metres will load the set so that all other signals are crowded out. I'm using a 8 in . speaker. - P. L. Knight (Heywood).

## An F.M. Tuner Unit

SIR,-The following further notes are given on the tuner in the August issue:
(a) Inductances L1 and L2 should be wound on standard $\langle i n$. formers, with dust cores removed. Spacing should be roughly the same as the wire diameter.
(b) Inductance L3 should, when wound on the $68 \mathrm{~K} \Omega$ resistor, have its ends soldered to the resistor fixing wires.
(c) Transformer L4, L5 should, when wound on the old l.F. transformer core. be replaced in the original screening can. In order to make a neater job, the germanium diodes may also be mounted inside the can, being soldered directly to the ends of LS.
(d) R.F.C. I and R.F.C. 2 consist of standard R.F. chokes.-J. Keıls (Yorks).

If too few turns meter will dip towards zero. When properly matched up, the meter will remain at a steady reading due to bias; it does not show A.C. audio, except when the transistor is being overloaded and then it flutters up and down. This flutter should not exceed 0.2 mA for $O C 72$ and 0.1 mA for OC71. If tuned coils are moved farther apart so that there is a reasonably steady reading, lansistors are not overloaded and the receiver is working quite safely, at loud volume without distortion; especially so if meter readings are reduced as much as possible, but not so much as to spoil fidelity. The various bias meter readings in the above circuits are shown as max. and in most cases can be reduced.

After tuning in a station and completing all adiustments the meter should be shored because OC72 may go up to 18 mA peaks, not shown but taken through the 5 mA meter which is thus overloaded.

## Part I. - A Correction

It should be noted that the captions for Figs. I and 2 in last month's issue were transposed.

[^3]
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Three－valve：2s．each．
Experimenters Short－
wave Three（SG．D． Pow

PW30A＊
The Prefeet $3(\hat{W})$ ， $21 \ddot{F}$ （RCand Trans）

PW63＊
The Band－spread S．W． Three（flF．Pen．D）． （PEn）．Pen）

PWGR：

## PORTABLES

1s．fod．
The＂M：n－Foul＂Nil－
（lyy（4－1 alve surerhel）

## MISCELLANEOUS

25．eath．
S．W．Converter－Adapter （1 valve）… ．．．PW4RA＊
The P．W．3－speced Anto－
gram ．．．．．． 12 sheets）， 7 s .6 d ．＊
The P．W．Monophonic
Flectronic Organ
12 sheces），7s．fod．

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The＂Simplex＂．．．3＇．＊
The P．I．Band If Comerter i－＊



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Battery Operated
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## Vaims Operated

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Consomberic liwo（D）， Pゼロ．AC．．．．．．．All4

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AW42Y＊
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Uhra－short Battery Two （SGi．der Pen）．．．

Four－bahe：3s．each．
A．H．Short Ware Wortd－
beater（HFPen．I）．RCC
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Standard Four－sailver
Short－natacr（SCi，1）．
1．1．P！．．．．．．WM．383＊
Wains Operated

Standard Four－valde A． $\boldsymbol{C}^{\circ}$ ．
Short－water（SCi，1）．
R（，Trans）．．．．．．WM．391＊

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