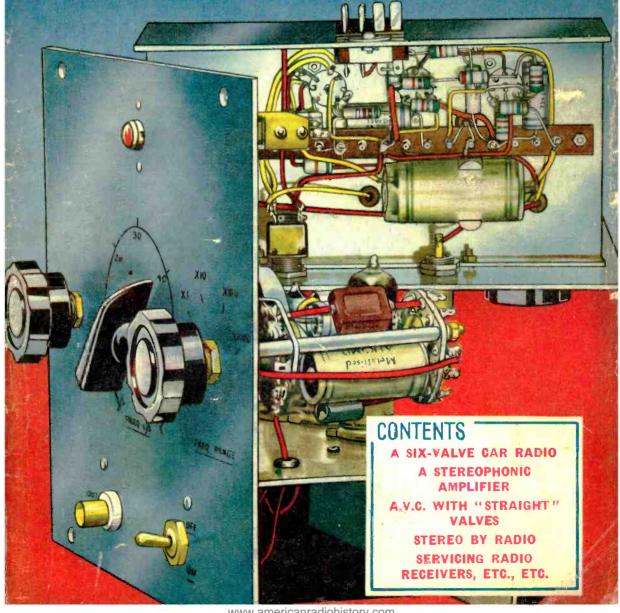
AN AUDIO SIGNAL GENERATOR CTICAL TRELESS MARCH 1959 EDITOR: EJ.CAMM





OSCILLOSCOPE COSSOR

A truly magnificent first grade L.F. oscilloscope incorporating a hard valve time base, speeds 1-5-40 milliseconds, easily extended for a few shillings to 3 c.p.s. to 30 kc/s. speeds. Has high-class amplifier with fine and coarse gain controls. Brightness and focus controls, X & Y shifts. 115 v. & 230 v. Mains power pack fully fuse protected. Employs 2\(\frac{3}{2}\)in. tube ACR 10 size 19in. x 7in. x 12in. Only 20 in stock so first come first served. Gen-uinely cost £59 each, our price £14.0.0 Carr. 15/-.

HEADPHONES BRAND NEW. American,

chamois padded (as illus.), movingcoil 100 ohms, 25/-. U.S.A. lightweight, Type H.S.30, 15/-. Low re-sistance 120 6/6 ohms, High resis-

tance, 12/6. P. & P. 1/6 on each. COMMUNICATION CEIVER RIISS. This magnificent receiver covers 5 ranges: 75-200 kc/s, 200-500 kc/s, 3-7.5 Mc/s, 7.5-18.5 Mc/s. Fully tested before despatch. Complete with circuit and instruction booklet,

BUILD AN F.M. TUNER with this MINIATURE 373
I.F. STRIP 9.72 MC/S. Complete with 6 valves, 3 EF91, 2 EP92, 1 EB91, F.T.s, etc., supplied with this mith surface and supplied with surface and supplied with surface and surface with circuit and complete conversion to F.M. Tuner details. The best buy of the year at 40/-with valves. 12/6 less valves. P. & P. 2/6.

PORTABLE AMPLIFIER. PRINTED CIRCUIT. Size 6 lin. wide, 2 lin. deep, 3 in. high. Will wide, 21in. deep, 3in. high. Will suit all crystal pick-ups. Output 3 watts. Uses UCL82 output, UY85 rectifier. Volume and tone controls. With circuit diagram. ONLY 45/-. 7in. x 4in. elliptical speaker for above, 14/6.

WHEATSTONE BRIDGE.

Consisting of four stud switches: 0-210 ohms. Ga Galvanometer centre zero F.S.D. 2.5 mA. Ranges easily extended. Housed in oak cabinet 16 x 71 x 6in. Housed Complete with instructions, 22/6.

H.R.O. SENIOR RECEIVERS.
50 kc/s.-30 Mc/s Complete with all valves, 4 Frequency coil sets, "5" meter, crystal gate, matching mains power pack. Fully tested and supplied ready for immediate operation. We are proud to offer these magnificent receivers at only Carr. 20/6.

ACCUMULATORS. 2 volts 16 A.H. (unspillable). Ideal

for 6 and 12 volts supply, etc. Brand new. Original cartons. Size 4in, 7in. × 2in., 5/6 each. P. & P. 1/6. 3 for 15/-. P. & P. 3/6. 6 for 27/6. & P. 5/-

POLICE-AIRCRAFT-HAM

U.S.A. RECEIVER BC624

This is a must for all intelligent radio enthusiasts. Complete receiver covering 100-156 Mc/s, has no less than 10 valves, is a superhet with R.F., 31.F.s second det., and O/P stages, perfect for 2 metres. Power requirements 300 volts 60 mA, and 12 v. at 1.7 amps. Supplied with full operating details and circuit, etc., all for only 30/-. P.P. 5/-.

operating details and circuit, etc., all for only 30/-. P.P. 5/-. Mains power pack kit, 42/6.

TRANSMITTER BC625 used with above receiver, covers 100-156 Mc/s, will deliver 15 watts, consists of seven valves (2-832), 3 for modulation, 4 for R.F. Complete with operating details and circuits, only 45/-. P.P. 5/-. Complete Trans./Receiver Assembly, 70/-. Carr. 10/-.

WALKIE/TALKIE SET



Consisting of transreceiver covering 7.4-9 Mc/s, range up to 10 miles, complete with 5 valves, headphones, microphone, junction box & 6ft. telescopic aerial. Only requires 120 v. & 3 v., dry battery. These magnificent Walkie/Talkie sets (as used by H.M. Forces) are ideal for any application and can be operated with ease by young and old

TWO £6 POST FREE.

SOLDERING IRONS

230-250 volts instrument type, 2S watts, complete with neon indicator. Brand new 16/6, P.P. 2/6.



INTERCOM No Batteries No Soldering Just connect The perfect system for and use. 2-way conversation offering 101 uses. This amazing offer con-

sists of 2 Dynamic Sound Powered Microphone Receivers and 15 yards of

PER PAIR P. & P. 1/6.

RECTIFIER BARGAINS

Mains (doubler) 300 volts per section at 120 mA., 5/- each. P. P. 1/6. Two (full wave) for 8/-, P.P. 2/-.

SUPPLY UNIT No. 5

Contains Hand Generator giving 6 v. output with overload cut-out, ideal to boost a flat car battery: 6 volt Vibrator Pack giving 3 volts and ISO yolts with output leads, plugs, etc., for Army 38 and 18 sets; Battery box for three 2 v. accumulators. This is a fully portable and multi-purpose power supply unit. BRAND NEW.

ONLY 30/- Carr. Paid.



AERIAL VARIOMETERS.

These magnificent instruments enable you to receive maximum signal strength on all S. W. receivers. Precision calibra-ted control. Complete with connection details, 12/6. P. & P. 2/6.



12/0. F. & F. 4/0.

T.C.S. TRANSMITTER. Covering 1.5-12 Mc/s (160-80-40 metres) consists of V.F.O. Buffer, Doubler, P.A. with internal pro-Doubler, P.A. with internal push/pull modulator, and provision for V.F.O. or crystal control on 4 channels. Output 40 w. Complete phone, 100 w. C.W. with aerial current and plate current meters. £9.10.0. Carr. 15/-. R.B.Z. PORTABLE RE-CEIVER, Covering 5 to 13 Mc/s. Only 9in. long, 2\(\frac{2}{3}\)in. wide, 1\(\frac{2}{3}\)in. deep, weight 30oz. valve permeability tuned superhet receiver. Incorporates on/off gain and frequency controls. Complete with headphones, aerial, matching battery container, canvas case and 55 page instruction book. Operates from standard dry batt. Brand new. Fully guar. Ready for immediate operation. Only £5, P. & P. S/- (Batteries 12/8 extra.)
WESTINGHOUSE 1.50 PEN-

CIL RECTIFIERS. 500 v. 5 mA., 5/-, P. & P. 1/-, SEE AT NIGHT! Yes, it's true! With this complete Infra-Red night driving installation you can see at night and in fog yet the operator cannot be seen. Comprises adjustable long vision binoculars, 12 v. power pack, control unit, connecting cables. Can be assembled within minutes. Govt. acquisition, £200. Brand new, boxed, £6.10,0. Carr. 10/-. MICROPHONES. BRAND NEW. Throat, magnetic, 4/6;

No. 8 carbon with switch, 6/6; No. 7 moving coil, 8/6. INFRA RED MONOCULAR.

Ideal for night viewing, etc. Complete with push = button zamboni pile power unit and

focus lens. Brand new in beautiful leather carrying case. Originally cost Govt. £40. OUR PRICE 17/6. Govt. £40. P. & P. 2/6.

Fully illustrated catalogue, 1/3.

32a, COPTIC STREET, LONDON, W.C.I. 87, TOTTENHAM CT. RD., LONDON, W.I.

Telephone: MUSeum 9607.

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ADVANCE YOUR CAREER through a SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION*

Have you recently qualified—or hope to do so soon? Then a R.A.F. Short Service Commission can bring you greater all-round technical and executive experience than almost any civilian appointment.

With ever-growing aircraft, missile, electronic and nuclear developments, a Technical Officer in the Royal Air Force today has almost unlimited scope. The work is interesting, responsible and, above all, varied.

2 SCHEMES OF ENTRY

For men with engineering qualifications (especially electrical)

Commissions are for 3 to 6 years. Minimum requirements are a Higher National Certificate in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering and G.C.E., or equivalent, in English Language at 'O' level. By joining at 21, you could be earning over £1,250 (including full allowances) by 27, if married. The upper age limit for entry is under 37.

For men under 21 without technical qualifications

Commissions are for 5 to 8 years. Minimum requirements: G.C.E., or equivalent, with passes in English Language and four other subjects, which must include Pure and Applied Mathematics and Physics at 'A' level. Join at 20 and, by 26, you could be earning, if married, over £1,100 a year (including full allowances).



With both schemes you must, of course, be physically fit. They also offer the possibility of extending a Short Service Commission or converting to a Permanent Commission, leading to higher ranks; and if you return to industry, there are special facilities to help you obtain a post in line with your age and added experience.

This is a fine way to help your future career, gain executive experience, see something of the world—and be well-paid while you are doing it! Write now for full details to Air Ministry (P.W.213), Adastral House, London W.C.1.







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*IF YOU ARE A GRADUATE with a Science or Engineering degree, and under 30, you can apply for a R.A.F. Permanent Commission straight away. Write for details of the fine career prospects and pay offered.



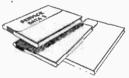




2	PRACTICAL WIRELESS	March, 1959
PARAMERANA I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	HANAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAH	Band III Converted
Complete lighting fittings. Built-in ballast and starters—stove enamelled white and ready to work, ideal kitchen, workshop—anywhere. Twin 20 approximately 27in, long complete with two 20W tubes, 49:6. Single 40 approximately 4ft. long complete with one 80W tube, 59:6. Carciage and insurance up to 150 miles 56: up to 250 miles 76: 21in. Winiature complete with 13 watt tube. Ideal for showcase or position where niniature fitting is required. Complete with latest lin. diameter tube. 49 6 each. Why Mend Fuses? To provent this bothersome time losen we can ofer a 230 v. A.C. Circuit Breaker which will stand loads up to 10 Amps, but will trip on short circuit. It is an ideal unit for controlling a work bench, as it is also an onloif switch. New U.S. surplus, reference No. Mil8082, probably cost at least & each. limited quantity only—27:6 each, plus 2/- post and packing. Hi-Fi Snip Infinite Wall Baffle	The Taylor Meter Model 100A All the advantages of a valve voltmeter but none of its disadvantages, it is, in fact, the only meter in the world with a sensitivity of 100,000 ohms per Volt and all these other features: B.C. Current—2 microamp to 10 Amps, D.C. in 8 ranges. D.C. Volts—10 microvolt to 25 KV. in 8 ranges (25 KV. with external adaptor Optional extra), A.C. Volts—0-2.5 KV. A.C. in 6 ranges.	Band III Converters Suitable Wales. London, Mid- lands. North, Scotland, Sc
2DJ3C 5 2DJ3C 5 3C	Complete Walkie-Talkie 25/- This is the 46 Walkie- Talkie. It has a range of approx. 5 miles—Just right for search parties. The production of the productio	A.C./D.C. Multimeter Ranges: D.C. volts 0-5, 0-50, 0-100, 0-500, 0-1000, A.C. volts 0-5, 0-50, 0-100, 0-500, 0-1000, D.C. milliamps 0-5, 0-100, 0-500, 00 with internal batteries. Measures A.D.C. current and ohms. All essential parts including mease, 2ln. moving coll me selected resistors, wire for shurange selector, switches, calibre scale and full instructions, pl 9 6, plus 2/6 post and insurance. Metal Rectifier 80 mA. 300 volt, 3/6 each, plus post 1. Novelty Radio Completely wired tunable medium and long wave, originally intended for B7G valves and external batteries but could easily be converted for transistors with internal/batteries. Less valves and speaker, otherwise complete. 15., plus 1/8 postage.









Multi-Purpose Mains Transformer

Heavy duty construction, must have cost at least \$3 to make. Offered at a snip price of 14/6.

Specification:—

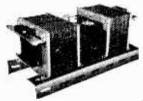
Specification:

Primary
Secondary 1. 680 v.-200 mA. centre tapped.
Secondary 3. 23 v.-750 mA.
Secondary 3. 23 v.-750 mA.
Secondary 4. 7 v.-5 amp. centre tapped.
Secondary 5. 5 v.-5 amp. centre tapped.
Secondary 5. 5 v.-5 amp. centre tapped.
Secondary 5. 5 v.-5 amp. centre tapped.
In addition there is a window space for extra L.T. windings, winding ratio is 2! turns per volt. Weight of transformer is 12 lb., size approximately 6in. x 4!in. x 4!in. Connections all brought out to terminals on bakelite panel. We have only 500 of these, so order at once to avoid disappointment. Non-callers add 3.6 postage please.

"Dim and Full" Switch

Particularly useful for controlling photofiood lamps which have only a short life at full brilliance. This toggle switch has bree positions the first position puts two lamps in series at half brilliance for setting up, the second position is off and the third position full brilliance for the operational shots. Also useful for controlling night lights, heaters, etc., etc. Price 26 each. S. post 9d. Circuit diagram included.

Mains Isolation Transformer



Makes servicing safe. Input tapped 200-250 v. output tapped 200-250 v. Rated at 500 watts intermittent rating 2.000 watts. Screens for suppressing mains interference. Size approximately 14in, x 6in, x 6in, weight approximately 40lbs. Price 25.12.6. Carriage and insurance 76 (up to 250 miles).

Avo Prodclips



The advantage of these test prods is that by pressing the trigger at the side they become crocodile clips and can be left in circuit. This is a great time saver when servicing Price 15/- pair.

Miniature Microphone

American made. Dynamic type, real bargain at 1/6. Plus 6d. postage



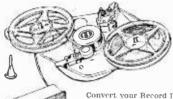
Ex-Government low resistance, perfect, 7/6 pair. Plus 1 6 postage.

Cine Cameras



16 mm. motorised (24VAC) for 16 frames per second, contains fine Fig.5 triple anastigmatic lens and spool to carry 25ft. of film — probable cost around £150, brand new and in sealed carton £61.00 or 20%-deposit and 13 fortnightly payments of 10 post and insurance 3 6.

Gram into Tape Recorder



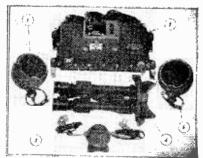
Convert your Record Player or Radiogram into a Tape Recorder Can be fitted in a few seconds and then you have meeting the second of the facilities afforded by a commendately all the facilities afforded by a commendately afforded by

Non-callers please add 5 - carriage and insurance. With pre-amp $\pounds 13/2/6$ or $\pounds 1$ down and 26 weekly payments of 10 -.

LATEST TYPE

Turret Tuner

Brand new stock, not surplus, with coils for Band I and III complete with valves. Model I I.F. output 33'38 Mc/s. Series heaters Model 2 I.F. output Is IAMED, Parallal beater. 16 19 Mc's. Parallel heaters. With instructions and circuit diagram. 79 6. With knobs 3/6 extra, post and insurance 2/6.



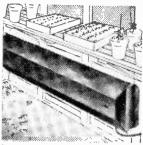
TABBY EQUIPMENT COMPLETE

Complete equipment for seeing in the dark, as fitted to Army vehicles for night driving, etc. Complete working equipment comprises: 2 Inira Red Radiators, adjustable binorulars, powerpack for 6 or 12 volts, control units and inter-connection cables. Original cost probably around #100. Unused and in perfect order—\$6.19.6 or 10 - deposit and 15 fortnightly payments of 10.

befinitely your last chance! We still have a few of [the R208 Communication Receivers (Sputnik Specials) and if you hurry your order to us you may be in time—but please act promptly. Price for tested receiver is £61.9.6, or 10—deposit and 16 weekly payments of 10%, plus 15—carriage.



Convector Heater



Yaxley Switches

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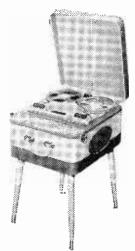
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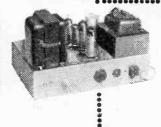
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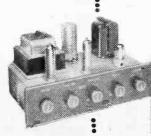
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£9.9.0

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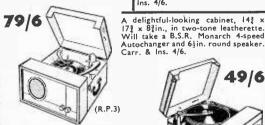


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R.F. E.H.T. Not tested. Amplifier stage 6V6 with O.P. trans. 3 ohms matching. Smoothed H.T. 350 volt at 250 m.a., 6.3. v. at 5 amp., 22 v at 3 amp., 6.3 v. at 4 amp. and 4 v. centre tapped. Less valves. Drawings free. Size 14½ x 9 x 7in. Ins. Carr. 5/6.

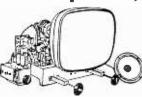
POWER PACK AND AMPLIFIER

Output stage PEN45. O.P. trans. choke. Smoothed H.T. 325 volt at 250 m.a. 4 v. at 5 amp., 6.3 v. at 5 amp., 4 v. at 5 amp. centre tapped. Valve base for rectifier. Octal or 4 pin. Output is taken from standard plugs. Less valves. Ins. Carr. 5/6.

POWER PACK AND AMPLIFIER

Tested. Output stage 6V6 with O.P. trans. 3 phms choke. Smoothed H.T. 350 v. at 250 m.a. 6.3 v. at 5 amp., 22 v. at 3 amp., 6.3 v. at 4 amp. and 4 v. centre tapped. Less valves. Ins. Carr. 5/6.

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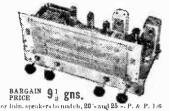
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250-0-250	v. 100 mA	., €.3 v. 4	a, 5 v. 3	a 23/9
300-0-300	v. 100 m.	., 6.3 V. 4	a. 5 v. 5	a 23
350-0-350	v. 100 mA	. 6.3 V. 9	a, 5 v.	a 23/1
350-0-350	v. 100 m/	1. 0.3 V.	4 4. 4 4.	23/9
250-0-250	3 a v. 150 mA	6344	a 5 v 5	a 29/9
	SHR			
250-0-250	v. 60 mA	. 6.3 v.	2 a. 5 v.	. 2 a,
Midge	t type 21-	3-3in		17.0
250-0-250	v. 100 m.	6.3 V. 4	a, 5 v. c	a 20
300-0-300	v. 100 m.	63 V.	0 5 7	2 28
300-0-300	v. 130 m	63 V	18 63 4	18
for Mi	illard 510	Amplif	ler	35/1
350-0-350	v. 150 m/	4. 6.3 v.	a. 5 v. 3	3 a 33/!
350-0-350	v. 150 m	A. 6.3	7. 2 a, 6	3.3 v.
2 a, 5	v. 3 a. v. 200 m			35/
425-0-425	v. 200 m	1A. 6.3	v. 4 a. C	J.T.
6.3 v.	4 a. C.T.	5 V. 3	a. Sull	anie
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FILAMENT TRANSFORMERS All with 200-250 v. 50 c/s, primaries 6.3 v. 1.5 a. 5/9 : 6.3 v. 2 a. 7/8 : 0-4-6.3 v. 2 a. 7/9 : 12 v. 1 a. 7/11 ; 6.3 v. 3 a. 8/11 ; 6.3 v. 6a. 17/6 : 12 v. 3 a. or 24 v. 1.5 a. 17/6. CHARGER TRANSFORMERS All with 200-230-250 v. 50 c/s Primaries 0-9-15 v. 1½ a., 11/9 ; 0-9-15 v. 3 a. 16/9 0-9-15 v. 5 a., 19/9 ; 0-9-15 v. 6 a., 23/9.

SMOOTHING CHOKES		** 10
150 mA. 7-10 H 250 ohms	***	11/9
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Midget Battery Pentode 66:1	for	
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10,000 Ω to 3 Ω		4/9
Push-Pull 10-12 watts 6V6 to 3Ω	or	
150		15/9
Push-Pull 10-12 watts to match	3V6	-0.0
to 3-5-8 or 15 0		16/9
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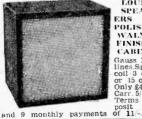
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UNIT. Size approx. 12-9-7in. For A.C.
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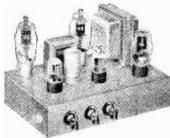
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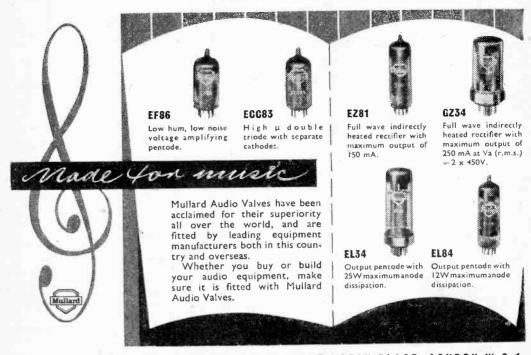
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PRACTICAL WIRELESS

EVERY MONTH
VOL. XXXV, No. 627, MARCH 1959
COMMENTS OF THE MONTH

EDITOR : F. J. CAMM

27th YEAR OF ISSUE

BY THE EDITOR

THE GROWTH OF THE CLUBS

HERE was a noticeable increase in club activity during the past year. Old clubs which have waxed and waned have again sprung into life and new clubs are being formed every month. Readers will have noticed the increased amount of space we are now devoting to club reports, and it is in this connection that we ask club secretaries to co-operate with us by sending in reports not later than the 10th of the month for publication in the following month's issue. Time, tide and printers wait for no man and reports which arrive after the deadline are scrapped. It is unfortunately true that some club secretaries are lax and presume that there is some elasticity about press dates. There is none. We mention this point because occasionally we receive a complaint from a club secretary that his report has been omitted, but the fault lies with him. We are anxious to encourage the club movement and we make no charge for the insertion of club reports. It is not too much to ask that club secretaries co-operate with us. Another point: it would be a convenience if club reports were prepared in the style in which we print them. Remember when writing reports that they should contain matter of general interest to other readers. A report that a lecture was given on such and such a date by Mr. So-and-so is already well known to local members. Try to extract from the speaker's remarks some fact or facts of general interest to other readers. If the club issues a club magazine, we are always glad to have copies for reference. There are many clubs in existence which do not circulate a monthly report to the press; we hope that they will now do so. There are many readers who wish to join a club and write asking for details of one in their area. We are engaged upon compiling a directory of radio clubs so that we will be able to put readers on to the nearest club secretary. We hope that every club secretary will forward us details giving the name of the club, meeting place, time and frequency of meeting, membership qualifications, annual subscription, etc. A book of rules for filing purposes would be welcome. We are also glad to receive and to publish photographs of any interesting club events, such as a field day, practical

START OF VOL. 35

demonstrations, etc.

WITH this issue, we commence the 27th year of publication with a larger circulation than ever before, and it is still rising. We have the largest circulation of any technical radio journal, and it is pleasant to receive letters from time to time from readers who have been with us from the start. Home construction is as virile as ever. Needless to say, the index to the past volume is in course of preparation and an announcement will be made as soon as this is ready.

"THE PRACTICAL HOUSEHOLDER" EXHIBITION

A FINAL reminder that the exhibition organised by our companion journal, *The Practical Householder*, opens at Earls Court, on Wednesday, February 18th, and extends to Saturday, February 28th. A free ticket is printed in every copy of the March issue which is now on sale.—F. J. C.

Our next issue, dated April, will be published on March 6th

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The Editor will be pleased to consider articles of a practical nature. Such articles should be written on one side of the paper only, and should contain the name and address of the sender. Withst the Editor does not hold himself responsible for manuscripts, every effort will be made to return them if a stamped and addressed envelope is enclosed. All correspondence intended for the Editor Practical Wireless, George Newnes, Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.2. Owing to the rapid progress in the design of wireless apparatus and to our efforts to keep our readers in touch with the latest developments, we give no warranty that apparatus described in our columns is not the subject of letters patent.

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PRACTICAL WIRELESS incorporates "Amateur Wireless."

ROUND THE WORLD OF WIRELES

Broadcast Receiving Licences

THE following statement shows the approximate number of Broadcast Receiving Licences in force at the end of November, 1958, 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			Total
London Postal			979,166
Home Counties			974,824
Midland			717,162
North Eastern			879.125
North Western			678,995
South Western			592,046
Wales and Border	Countie	es	367,669
Total England and	Wales		5,188,987
Scotland			632,892
Northern Ireland			171.377
Grand Total			5,993,256

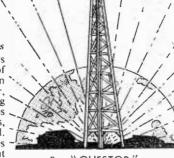
Tape Recorder Amalgamation
PECORD HOUSING LIMITED, the London firm of hi-fi cabinet manufacturers, have taken over the whole of the distribution and sales organisation of Magnafon Tape Recorders.

Four models are marketed—the lightweight Courier, with the Motek deck: the Courier Stereo; the Diplomat high fidelity recorder with the latest Collaro Mark IV deck and the new Magnafon "Adadek," which can be plugged into any radio, radiogram or amplifier. Special screw-in legs are available for all these models in order to turn them into console sets.

The instruments first appeared in a new range of cabinets specially designed for the 1958 Radio Show.

New Isle of Wight Ship-shore Service

A NEW ship-shore service, operating from the Isle of Wight, has now come into use. It is the third in the chain of ship-shore V.H.F. stations operated by the Post Office and provides similar facilities to those already in use in the Firth of Clyde and at North Foreland.



By "QUESTOR"

V.H.F. radiotelephone communication between telephone subscribers in the United Kingdom and suitably equipped ships of all nationalities are now available in the approaches to Southampton and the English Channel within about 50 miles of St. Catherines Point.

Shore equipment is on St. Boniface Down, near Ventnor, and the calls are handled by the existing Post Office coast radio station at Niton. The equipment complies with inter-

ment complies nationally recommended engineering standards, and frequency uses modulation. The emfrequencies give a ployed single - frequency calling channel on 156.8 Mc/s, and a t w o - frequency traffic channel using 161.85 Mc/s transmission for and 157.25 Mc/s for reception. The use of these frequencies has been agreed internationally for radio services of this kind.

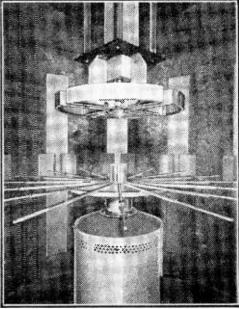
Charges for a 3-minute call is 6s. 6d. for the combined coast station and ship charges. plus a landline charge of 6d. or 2s. 6d., depending on the distance between

Niton and the telephone subscriber. Further services are planned from the existing coast radio stations at Lands End and Humber (Mablethorpe).

Marconi VOR for U.K. Net-

POLLOWING an exhaustive evaluation of V.H.F. Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) equipment, the Ministry of Supply has ordered eleven complete VOR installations from Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company, on behalf of the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation. These installations will be distributed at selected points on the U.K.'s airways to provide a nation-wide navigational system for suitably equipped aircraft.

The Marconi VOR complies fully with the specification of the International Civil Aviation Organisation. It operates on the



The aerial system of the Marconi VOR installed in the aerial tower.

- internationally agreed frequency range of 112-118 Mc/s, with a power output of 200 watts.

'A specially designed flatroofed building is normally employed for installation. This enables the aerial and associated counterpoise aerial mounted on the flat roof surface, the aerial changeover unit and the phase unit to be mounted on a wall of the building, and the remaining units in standard cabinets on the floor space. Each of the two transmitters is assembled in a cabinet 6ft. high. The remaining units are assembled in 3ft. 6in. cabinets which are normally placed between the transmitter cabinets.

Valve Design Technique

THE English Electric Valve Co., Ltd., are holding a private exhibition at the Kensington Palace Hotel from March 17th to 21st, both dates inclusive.

The display will consist of all that is modern in valve design technique in the world of radar, communication, transmitting, broadcasting—both sound and vision—and instrumentation, together with new types of storage tubes. They will be pleased to welcome any readers who may wish to come.

BBC Engineering Division Appointment

THE BBC announces the appointment of Mr. M. Taylor, A.M.I.E.E., as Engineer-in-Charge of the Lisnagarvey Transmitting Station near Belfast. Northern Ireland. in succession to Mr. J. P. McCurdy who is retiring after thirty-four years service.

Mr. McCurdy started his career with the BBC at Belfast in 1924. He joined the staff of the Lisnagarvey Transmitting Station in 1935 and became Engineer-in-Charge in 1942.

Mr. R. A. Rennie

MR. R. A. RENNIE has also been appointed to the BBC Engineering Division as Engineer - in - Charge (Sound), Glasgow, in succession to Mr. J. G. W. Thompson, who has retired after thirty-four years' service. Mr. Thompson started his career with the Corporation in 1924 at Edinburgh, He became Assistant Engineer-in-Charge at the Glasgow Studios in 1942 and Engineer-in-Charge in 1955.



Listening to tape recordings are John Borwick who presents the programme "Sound", and Marguerite Cutforth, the producer.

Mr. Rennie joined the Corporation at the Aberdeen Studios in 1941. Since 1952 he has been in the Sound Section of the Planning and Installation Department in London, from where he takes up his present appointment.

B.I.R.E.

THE following Institution meetings will be held during February:

London. At London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Keppel Street, Gower Street, W.C.1. Medical Electronics Group, Friday, February p.m. 13th, 6.30 "Some Instrumentation Problems in Medical Electronics with particular reference to Electromyography," by Peter Styles. Institution Meeting, Wednesday. February 25th. 6.30 p.m. "Patents and the Radio Engineer," by E. D. Swann.

Audio Again at Radio Show PLANS for the National Radio and Television Exhibition to be held at Earls Court. London, from August 26th to September 5th, 1959, include an audio hall on a larger scale than 1958.

The audio hall, which was an innovation at the last radio show, was regarded as one of its most successful features, and according to attendance survey, was visited by more than one quarter of a million people.

The Programme "Sound"

IN January last a new fortnightly series began in the BBC Network Three. The series contains practical help and examples of first-class recording and news of the latest and most novel developments of interest to amateur tape recording enthusiasts and hi-fi fans.

Educational Filmstrips

MULLARD EDUCATIONAL SERVICE announces a new series of filmstrips dealing with the history and basic principles of scientific developments. Details are obtainable from Unicorn Head Visual Aids Ltd., 42. Westminster Place Gardens,

A STEREOPHONIC AMPLIFIER

AN ECONOMICAL CIRCUIT DESIGN INCORPORATING TWO OUTPUT VALVES WITH ONE DOUBLE-TRIODE VALVE FOR THE TWO DRIVER **STAGES**

By D. J. Hussey

THE only critical parts in this amplifier are the two output transformers which need to be identical. A "rugged" power pack is required as the amplifier takes about 100 mA H.T. current. An Elstone SR250 mains transformer is used. The

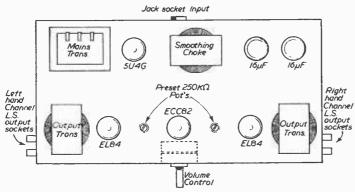
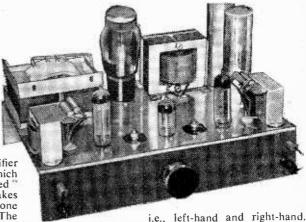


Fig. 1.—The chassis layout.

rectifier valve is a 5V4G'. The D.C. resistance of the smoothing choke should not exceed 100 ohms. Reservoir and smoothing capacitors of 16 µF each were found to be adequate. The amplifier was arranged in the manner shown (Fig. 1) to discriminate between the two channels,



The Circuit

As the two channels are identical it will suffice to desscribe only one. The signal from the pick-up is applied to the grid of the A.F. amplifier (half of an ECC82 valve) and from the anode of this valve it passes via a capacitor to a 250 kilohm potentiometer. The signal passes then to a pentode output stage using an EL84 valve in a conventional circuit.

The H.T. decoupling between the A.F. and output stages was introduced to minimise hum. With no input, and the volume control at maximum. the hum level is practically

inaudible. In the input circuit a three-way jack plug and socket were used for the pick-up connections (Fig. 2). The chassis layout is not critical but some effort should be made to separate the power supplies from the amplifier.

Care should be taken with the screening of the

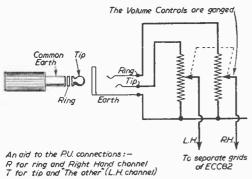


Fig. 2.—Wiring of the jack plug and socket.

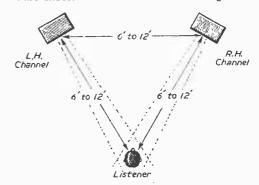


Fig. 3.—The positioning of the loudspeakers.

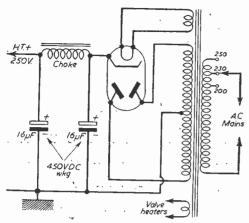


Fig. 4.—Circuit of the power supply.

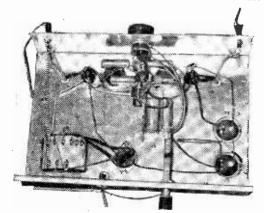
Note: The cathode of the 5V4G is joined internally to the side of the heater connected to pin 8.

input leads and the phasing of the loudspeakers. The circuit is otherwise extremely simple to set up. The fixed tone correction capacitors across the O.P. transformers can be adjusted according to personal preference.

Operation

Connect up the pick-up as shown: make sure that the loudspeakers are connected and switch on the amplifier. Play a stereo record—preferably a "demonstration" type—and turn up the two preset 250 kilohm pots (clockwise). The loudspeakers should be six to 12 feet apart and the listener should be six to 12 feet from them, as shown in Fig. 3.

The demonstration record enables the amplifier channels to be balanced using one of the two preset controls. If the test frequency or speech should be coming from between the two loud-speakers but appears to be coming from the left (or right), turn down the left (or right) prest control until the sound appears to come from the correct location. The ganged volume control is used in the same way as a normal volume control. If balance is unobtainable, reverse the



View of the underchassis.

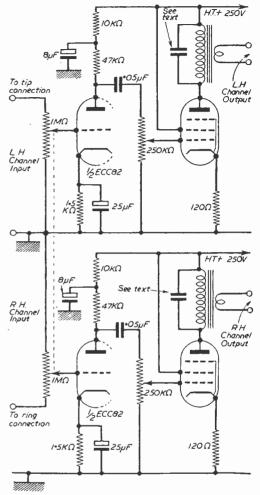


Fig. 5.—Circuit of the two-channel amplifier.

connections to *one* of the loudspeakers. This reverses the phase of the current through that loudspeaker and the two will then be operating in phase, enabling balance to be obtained.

Loudsbeakers

The two loudspeakers should, if possible, be identical, otherwise it may be difficult to secure balanced conditions. If you do not possess, or cannot afford to buy identical loudspeakers, use the one which has the better treble response for the left-hand channel, since in, for example, orchestral recordings, the higher pitched stringed instruments are positioned towards the left-hand side and the 'cellos and double-basses towards the right-hand side.

Results

Although this amplifier is inexpensive when compared with some of the elaborate high-fidelity apparatus which is now displayed in the windows of radio dealers' shops, it will be found to give results which are quite satisfactory, even to those with critical ears.



By T. Murphy

THE car radio about to be described was designed around a circuit that I constructed about four years ago, giving excellent results as a domestic receiver.

There have been some slight modifications to the R.F. amp and frequency changer stages to

accommodate the Osmor coils.

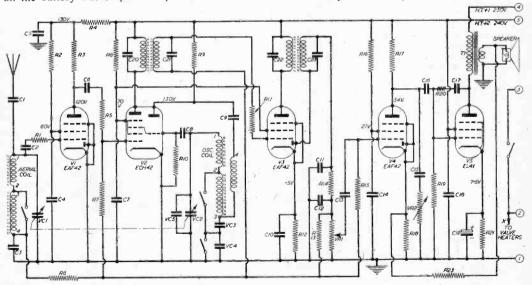
It was decided to use the single diode-pentode var-\$\mu\$ type valve EAF42. This has been used in three stages and if one of them goes low, the positions can be changed. The frequency changer is conventional, using an ECH42. An EL41 was chosen for its greater output, in preference to the EL42, although the latter nearly gained preference owing to its low heater current. Throughout in the design, and in the choice of valves, the drain on the battery was of prime importance.

where cruising speeds were more than 60 m.p.h. and although this car is prone to wind noise at high speeds, the output was always available for comfortable listening.

If space is available, an 8in. or 9in. × 5in. speaker could be used to advantage.

Noise

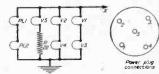
Vibrator noise is practically non-existent and ignition suppression is excellent. The output is extremely good (A.V.C. action) under all but the very worst conditions. Selectivity is also excellent, and tuning quite sharp, a necessity on a small dial. The receiver will, in fact, give results in many cases which are superior to those obtained with more expensive ready-built sets.



This is approximately 2.7 amps, when on full load, delivering 270 v. at 50 mA, and supplying heaters.

The set has been in continuous use in a Morris Minor for about nine months; prior to that it was on bench test for about two-three months. It has been used in the car on 350 mile journeys

Fig. 1.—Theoretical circuit of the receiver section.



1.F.T.'s

Ci C2

C4

C5 C6 C7 C8 C9

C10 C11

C12 C13

C14 C15

Č16

C17 C18

C19

Matched Pair Ceramic Tubular

Ceramic Tubular

Paper 250 V/W

Ceramic Tubular

Paper 250 V/W

Ceramic Disc

Ceramic Tubular

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Paper (Hunts)

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RESISTORS All ½ watt except where stated. R1 3.3 k Ω V1 grid R2 100 k Ω V1 screen R3 3.9 k Ω V1 anode R4 33 k Ω (1 watt) V1 H.T. dropper R5 3.3 k Ω V2 grid R6 330 k Ω A.V.C. R7 1 M Ω A.V.C. R8 68 k Ω V2 & V3 screen dropper R9 18 k Ω V2 osc. anode R10 47 k Ω V2 osc. grid V2 osc. grid V2 osc. grid V2 osc. grid V3 V3 V3 V3 V4 V4 V4 V4						
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R6 330 k Ω A.V.C. R7 1 M Ω A.V.C. A.V.C. R8 68 k Ω V2 & V3 screen dropped V2 osc. anode V2 osc. grid V3 osc. grid						
R7						
R8 68 k Ω						
R9 $18 \text{ k} \Omega$ V2 osc. anode V2 osc. grid						
R10 47 k Ω V2 osc. grid						
R11 3.3 k 0 V3 grid						
R12 330 Ω V3 cathode						
1 R13 1 M Ω A.V.C.						
$R14 47 k\Omega$ R.F. filter •						
R15 1 M Ω V4 grid to A.V.C.						
R16 680 k \(\Omega \) V4 screen dropper						
] R17 180 k Ω V4 anode						
R18 10 Ω V4 cathode						
R19 1 M Ω V5 grid						
R20 3.3 M Ω V5 anode to grid (anti-						
parasitic)						
R21 170 Ω (1 watt) V5 cathode						
R22 8.2 Ω (4 watt) V5 series heater						
R23 180 k \(\Omega \) Feedback from output t	rans.					
to V4 cathode						
VR1, VR2.—500 k, 100 k, c/w On, Off. Code	V105					
(Code V100 see text). All resistors ½ watt ex	ccept					
where indicated. Low-resistance high wattage types						
available from H. E. Smith, Edgware Rd., London.						
Chrome knobs, 2 inner, 2 outer, c/w telescopic spindles.						
Small dial. 4 small brass pulleys. 4 and 6 B.A. cou	nter-					
sunk screws. 4 panel bushes. Valve-holders, valves,						
loudspeaker, etc. (see text).						

Parasitic) R21 170 Ω (1 watt) V5 cathode R22 8.2 Ω (4 watt) V5 series heater R23 180 k Ω Feedback from output trans. to V4 cathode VR1, VR2.—500 k, 100 k, c/w On, Off. Code V105 (Code V100 see text). All resistors ½ watt except where indicated. Low-resistance high wattage types available from H. Ł. Smith, Edgware Rd., London. Chrome knobs, 2 inner, 2 outer, c/w telescopic spindles. Small dial. 4 small brass pulleys. 4 and 6 B.A. countersunk screws. 4 panel bushes. Valve-holders, valves, loudspeaker, etc. (see text).	All Radio Spares Midget. Clyne-Radio, London. Plugs and sockets. C/W covers, 2 of each, type M.5, 1 of M3A. VC1 VC2 WC3 WC3 WC3 WC3 WC5 WC5 WC5 WC6 WC7 WC7 WC7 WC8 WC8 WC9 WC9
Construction	
The set is constructed in two separate units—the power unit, which is fixed under the bonnet, and the R.F. and audio amplifier unit in a case fitted under the dashboard. If it is so desired the power supply could also be fitted under the dashboard behind the radio unit: The speaker is fitted external with a three-pin miniature plug and socket. This offers a choice of speakers and mounting positions.	VALVES V1—EAF42 (may be EF41). V2—ECH42. V3—EAF42. V4—EAF42 (may be EF41). V5—EL41. Valve Bases, 5, type B8A. Speaker—6 in. x 4in. Elliptical, 3\(\Omega\). Relda Radio Ltd., London. Output Transformer—Miniature EL41 to 3\(\Omega\). Osmor Limited.
If desired V1 and V4 may be EF41 Pentodes. It has also been found that the set is quite stable using 6F13s for V1 and V4. but since the circuit was designed around the variable μ EAF42s it is	suggested that they be used. Although the ECH4 has a slightly higher current rating than V4, the series heating chain is direct, no damage being sustained by V4.
V5 V3 IFTI V2 S6"	Layout The only thing to guaragainst in the compone layout is that the position of the confused with V

lthough the ECH42 ating than V4, the no damage being

CONDENSERS, EIC.

R.S. Midget

100 pF

100 pF

.05 pF

.01 pF

.01 pF 100 pF

.01 µF

100 pF

100 pF

.1 //F 200 pF

200 pF .01 pF

.01 µF

.001 nF

.01 #F

470 pF

.01 //F

25 /F 25 V/W Electro.

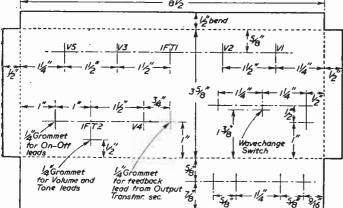


Fig. 2.—Details of the chassis carrying the valves, etc.

thing to guard the component hat the position of confused with V3, owing to the latter's position relative to V5.

The Radio Unit

The chassis, switch, coil pack group and front panel are made from 18 s.w.g. aluminium. The case bottom, top, sides and back are made from 22 s.w.g. tinned steel. All bolts from the outside case are 4 or 6 B.A. countersunk types, with the exception of 10 PK selftapping 6 B.A. \times $\frac{1}{4}$ in. screws holding the front cover and

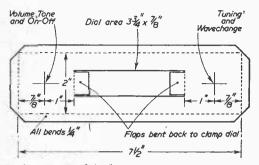


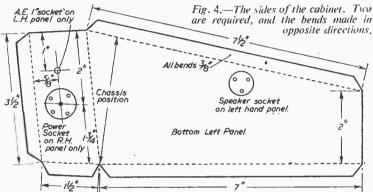
Fig. 3.—Details of the front

dial assembly in situ. The case is bent and drilled as shown, the sides being soldered to the base. Here a high wattage iron is necessary.

Applying soldering fluid to both edges to be

soldered, just tack the inner edge down, check for squareness at the back then tack down, if all is well apply a few spots of solder at odd places along the intended joint. Having secured the side to the base, press the edges close together to get as tight a joint as possible. Having com-pleted the inside, attention can be turned to the outside. Gently tap the base edge to the side to get as tight a joint as possible, then solder up

is aimed at, plumbers lead can then be liberally applied to the joint and filed down to hide from the outside all traces of a joint as was done in my case. It goes without saying, of course, that all holes are drilled prior to soldering, except the smaller ones. Even then. if a block of wood is cut to size and fitted inside the case, the possibility of cracking the joints is removed. The sides can be welded on or riveted. My case bending was done with the aid of a vice. a pair of angle iron pieces, a hammer and a small wrench. It will be found that this case will fit most modern cars. Having completed the case it can be painted inside with "blackboard black" and the outside finished crackle black or any colour scheme to match up the car. The top cover is secured to the case by 6 B.A. Jin. PK screws approx. 1½in. intervals. The back is also secured by 6 B.A. 4in. PK screws. Approximately 36 of these are required.

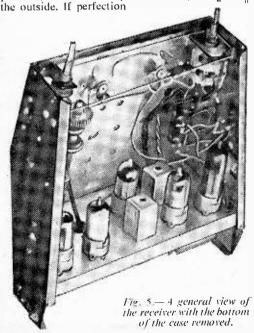


The volume and tone control spindles must be carefully shortened. They are mounted on a bracket approximately 14 in. long, 4 in. wide and kin. thick. This bracket is mounted on the base close to the front panel so that about three threads are protruding through the front panel, later to be locked to front panel by an additional nut. This shaft may come through the front panel via a rubber grommet if so desired. The base of this bracket had a 4 B.A. oval hole to assist in any slight misalignment, and final tightening was carried out with the dial plate in situ. The innet shaft is cut to length after fitting the controls to the bracket.

Fitting the Tuning Device

Now comes the most tricky bit of the whole assembly, fitting the tuning drive gear and wave-change controls. The gang condenser is controlled by the inner knob for finer tuning. Fitted to the gang shaft is a 6:1 reduction drive; this drive is secured to the base by a small bracket. Fitted to the other end of the reduction drive is a constructional toy gear, \(\frac{1}{2}\) in. face. \(\frac{1}{2}\) in. tooth length (Part No. 26A). This gear is bored out \(\frac{1}{2}\) in. for about two-thirds its depth, the other end of this gear is drilled out a little less than one-third its depth to \(\frac{3}{16}\) in. to act as a bush for the tuner control rod.

(To be continued)



A Push-button Multi-range Testmeter

IN THIS SECOND ARTICLE THE SWITCHING IS EXPLAINED

By Hugh Guy

*HE table mentioned last month is given below and shows the calibration of a 100Ω, 1 mA meter, for resistance measurement.

The details given so far should equip each reader with enough information to enable him to construct a multi-range instrument around any moving coil milliameter provided its sensitivity and resistance are known.

The multipliers and shunts thus deduced will suit an instrument which uses either rotary or push-button switching.

Rx. ohras	0	100Ω	2502	2 500	Ω	1 k	1.5	2k
D.mA.	1	.938	.857		75	.6	.5	.43
Rx. ohms	3k	4k	5k	10k	20k	5	0k	100k
D.mA.	.33	.27	.23	.13	.07	7 .(03	.015

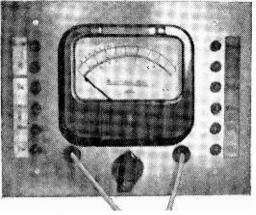
For the reader who intends to proceed with the push-button design, all the resistance values have been calculated for a meter with a 1 mA movement of 1002 resistance, giving a readymade design to construct,

Switch Details

There appears to be a large variety of pushbutton switch banks available on the surplus market, several different versions of which would be suitable for the instrument described here. Two switch sake of simplicity they are identical.

The switch specification is as follows. Six switches on each bank; and the contact arrangement is 4 double pole double throw; 2 pole double throw; and double pole single throw.

A close examination of the contact arrangement of the switch bank illustrated in circuit form in Fig. 6 shows that there are differences in the two switches which make



other push-button combinations suitable and a detailed switch specification for each bank of six

may be compiled from the circuit.

One side of the six-bank push-button combination is shown in the view in Fig. 7. The top contact of each set (with the exception of the second set from the left in the view shown) is normally "made" to the contact immediately below it. This middle contact is like the wiper, or armature, of the rotary type of switch. When the switch is operated, the wiper contact moves down to link the middle and corresponding bottom contact. Hence the latter is the "normally

open" contact of the equivalent rotary switch.

The second set from the left shown in the figure is rather different in that the wiper contact links the appropriate bottom two contacts when

it is operated.

The position of this switch and that of the first one are interchanged on the other side of the bank to give a three-pole action to each of the first two switches.

This is made clearer in the wiring diagram of Fig. 8 which shows the tag panels of each of the two switches as they would appear if hinged outwards from the back of the respective switch banks. The moving contacts are not shown for the sake of clarity.

The components list gives the values of the shunts and multipliers required for all ranges of the instrument designed around the commonly

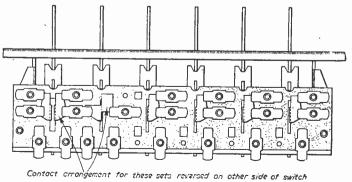


Fig. 7.—View of one side of the six-bank push-button combination.

available 0-1 mA meter of 100 ohms resistance. However, a great variety of meters is available on the surplus and other markets and to suit the current and resistance requirements of these the formulæ given earlier must be used to calculate the values of the appropriate multipliers and shunts.

One additional resistance not accounted for in these formulæ is the one labelled R1 in Fig. 6. Its value is determined by the ratio of the two resistance scales. If one assumes that the ratio of the larger-to-smaller resistance ranges is N—in the case of the particular design described here N is 100—then if the total meter circuit resistance is R (R is 1.5k in Fig. 5) R1 is given by

 $R1 = \frac{R}{N-1}$. Used with the circuit of Fig. 5 therefore R1 would be 15.15 Ω . In practice a 15 ohm resistor is used, the extra 0.15 Ω being contributed by unavoidable switch contact resistance.

Tolerance

This resistor should be of 1 per cent. or 2 per cent. tolerance and a high stability component, as should all multiplier resistors R5 to R10 inclusive. The components list gives their wattage rating and also suitable alternative pairs of preferred values of resistance which in general will be more readily available at component single than their retailers These resistors. equivalent pairs of resistors will, when the two are connected in

parallel, give the required value of multiplier to within very close limits. These close tolerance high stability resistors are not expensive.

It will be seen that the value of the shunts is very low and consequently they are most conveniently provided by hand-made resistors wound either with Eureka resistance wire, or, if it is preferred, with insulated copper wire. Copper wire is less preferable owing to the variation of its resistance with temperature, but provided the current flowing through it does not heat the shunt made with it, it should prove quite satisfactory. The required lengths of wire for the three

The required lengths of wire for the three shunts R2, R3, R4, wound in either Eureka resistance wire or copper wire will be given in the next article.

With the wiring shown in Fig. 6 last month, on the 0 to 1 k range the meter current is in the reverse direction. This can be corrected by a rearrangement of the wiring associated with S2a and S2b. (The wiring in Fig. 8 above is correct.) (To be continued)

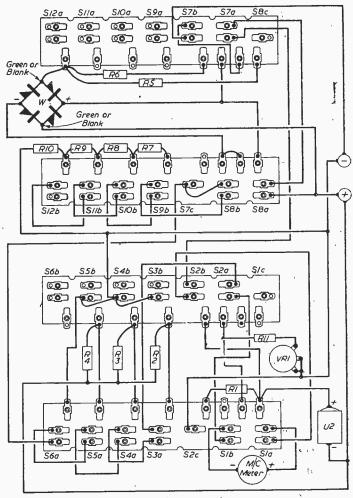


Fig.8.—Complete wiring diagram.

```
R1—15 Ω
R2-0.1001 Ω
                    ww See text.
R3-1.01 Ω
R4-11.11 Ω
R5-270k.
      -200k or 270k and 820k in parallel.
R8
     -91k or 220k and 150k in parallel.
R9-6.8k.
R10—22k/3.3k in parallel.
R11—1.2k 5% ½ watt carbon.
VR1—250 Ω WW. Pot.
All resistors 1 w. 1% High Stability unless other-
wise stated.
Two six-bank push-button switches (see text)-0-1 mA. M.C. meter 100\,\Omega or other (see text).
0-1 mA. Meter bridge rectifier, or other to suit
   meter.
One red, one black terminal.
Toggle DPCO switch (optional—see text).
1.5v. cell—U2, and fixing clip.
Tag strips, single strand inter-connecting wire,
   fixing nuts and screws, solder, etc.
```

.... COMPONENTS LIST

PRINTED CIRCUITS

No. 2.-DESIGNING A TRANSISTORISED AUDIO AMPLIFIER

By W. G. F. Roberts

BEFORE proceeding to design a printed circuit it must be remembered that a printed circuit is not easily or cheaply capable of modification. and thus the circuit diagram itself must be right before an attempt is made to convert to printed circuit. Thus, the circuit must be made to work on the bench first. A very important point often neglected by the amateur is the necessity to make the circuit work with mains variations of, say, ± 20 per cent., or.

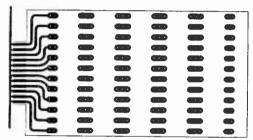


Fig. 5.—A "panic plate."

if working from a battery, with a reduction of 50 per cent, during the life of the battery.

Component Selection

Having evolved the circuit, it is then necessary to choose the components to be used, for their size and terminal disposition is a fundamental consideration in the design of the printed circuit.

The manufacturer of radio or other electronic equipment in quantity has a decided advantage here over the amateur. He has available the latest cata-logues of a wide range of component manufacturers, and, if he cannot select the component he requires from them, he can have it designed and manufactured. The amateur, however, must obtain his parts from his usual supplier. or adapt those from his own junk-

Having obtained both the circuit and the components, some designers wish to try the circuit in its final form before preparing the master drawing. One method is to obtain a piece of 1/16in. bakelite board. drill holes, and mount the components. Wiring is done on the reverse side of the board with tinned copper wire.

This enables the circuit to be tried in its final form. Later on, we shall see how this is done. To assist in design work on, say, computers, a special printed circuit, called a "panic plate" is sometimes used. Fig. 5 shows one of these circuits. A number of copper patches with holes are provided, across which small components, such as resistors, capacitors, diodes, and transistors, are connected. The example shown plugs into a standard assembly alongside conventional printed circuit panels.

One further consideration remains before design is started: that of size. Clearly, the selected size must be large enough to hold the components, but there may be considerations imposed by the equipment in which the circuit has to be fitted. For example, the designer of the printed circuit for a miniature radio may be told to keep his circuit within a size of, say, 6in. X 3in. and, with a maximum depth of 1½in.. find space for a battery, loudspeaker and aerial.

Component Positioning

The first step is to examine the theoretical circuit. As an example, a transistor audio amplifier, with 100 mW output has been chosen. Examination of Fig. 6 shows that at four points A, B, C and D, wires cross over. Points A and B are linked by a resistor, and clearly, this resistor could bridge across the wires leading to the 100 Ω and 5.6 Ω resistors. A similar argument might, at first, be thought to apply to the crossovers C and D, but this assumption is not

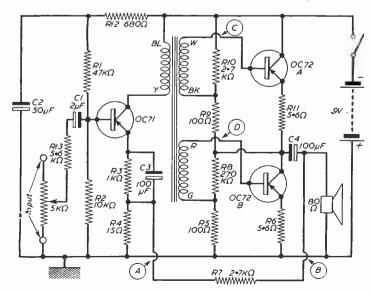


Fig. 6.—Circuit of amplifier.

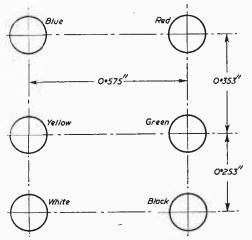
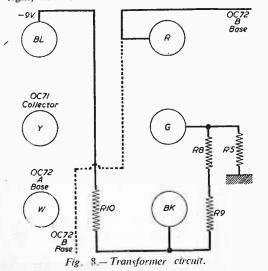


Fig. 7.—Transformer piercing.

justified as the transformer terminals are not in the same position as on the theoretical circuit. The transformer chosen is a Fortiphone Type 1.442.

The connections are as shown in Fig. 7, which also shows the panel drilling for the component, viewed from the printed circuit side. The relevant part of the circuit diagram is then sketched around these, as in Fig. 8, and it is obvious that crossovers can be avoided by returning a 9-volt lead between the two rows of the terminals. We can note that, if it is wished to have both OC72's below the transformer, the connection from the red terminal can pass as shown by the dotted line. This conversion of a theoretical symbol to a practical form is a valuable aid in printed circuit design. Suppose, for example, we wish to design a printed circuit using an ECC81 or 12AT7. On the left of Fig. 9 is shown the normal valve symbol, and, on the right, how it should be drawn to show the base



connections for printed circuitry. There is, of course, no need to attempt to draw the valve electrodes.

Drawing Out the Circuit

What we have done, then, is to analyse the circuit preparatory to making a printed circuit of it. It would be possible to redraw the circuit diagram from the conclusions drawn, but this is hardly necessary, as we have our notes available to make the printed circuit master. The next step is to list the components to be used, and obtain them to examine their size and determine the mounting centres. The resistors in our example all mount on 0.8in. centres; the 2 μF capacitor is the same, and the 50 μ F and 100 μ F mount on lin. The transformer is as shown in Fig. 7, and the transistors have flying leads. The volume control (which also carries the battery switch). R13, the loudspeaker, and the battery, are not on the circuit. A piece of squared paper (1/10in. squares) is used for drawing out the design. With the aid of the data previously obtained, and the theoretical circuit, the printed circuit pattern can be roughed out. Do not, of course, forget that

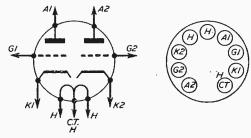


Fig. 9.-Valve connections.

the components are on the other side of the board to the printed circuit. The rough sketch of the

chosen circuit is shown on Fig. 10.

At this stage a "bread-board" version of the circuit can be made. A suitable piece of 1/16in. bakelite or perspex is obtained, and squared paper, suitably cut. attached to it by tabs of transparent tape. The drilling centres are then punched through the paper with a centre punch. the paper removed, and the panel drilled. The components are then inserted, and held by bending over the wires or any other convenient method. Using the paper circuit as a guide, wiring is then completed in bare tinned copper wire of about 24 s.w.g. The circuit can then be tried out. This is important for the amateur. as it would cost him about £3 to have a printed circuit made. In fact, he may be satisfied with having produced a simulated printed circuit in this manner.

The Master Drawing

Next a master drawing is prepared (Fig. 11). This is done on white cardboard of a special type known as Bristol Board, obtainable from any artists' supplier. In industry, boards are sometimes used with a blue grid overprinted with lines spaced 0.3in. apart. This is to allow the drawing to be three times full size, to improve

(Continued on page 33).

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2 X 2	3:6/6Q7	10 6 EBC:::	8'6 MU14	10/6
384	8 6 6SA7	7/6 EBC41	10/6 P61	6/6
3 V 4	8 6 68J7M	10/6 EBF80	10 6 PCC84	12/6
5U4	8 6 63N7	8.6 15.081	12 6 PCF80	11/6
5 V 3	8/6 6V6G	7/6 EUF80	11/6 PCL82	11/6
524		7/6 ECH42	10/6 PEN25	6/6
SAM6	8/6 GX5	7/8 ECL82		10/8
6B8	5/6/12AHS	10 '6 EF 30		10/6
6BE5	7/6 12AT7	9/6 EF11		10/6
GBH6	10/6 12AU7	9/6 EF50	5 8 PY82	10/6
6BW6	10/6 12AX7	9/6] EFS0	10 6 SP61	5/8
6126	7/6 12BE6	10'6 EF91	8 6 UBC41	10/6
6F6	7/6/12K7	8 6 EF92	5'6 UCH42	10/6
GHG	3/6 12Q7	8 8 EL::2	5/6 UF41	10/8
645	6/6 35 L6	9/8 EL84	19/6 UT.41	10/6
638	7-6 35Z4	9'6 EMSL	12/6 UY41	10/6
6J7	8,6 80	10/8 EZ 10	10/6 1/22	10/6
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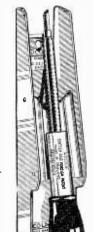
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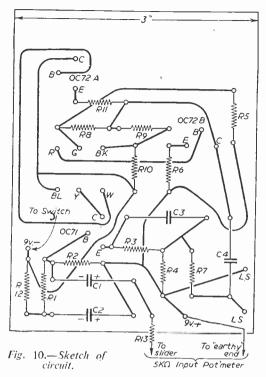
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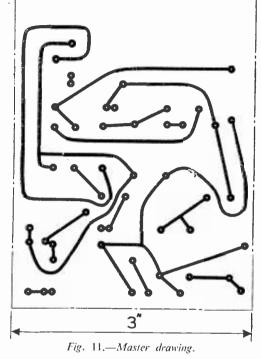
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definition and accuracy. The blue grid disappears during subsequent photographic processing. The pencil sketch is then transferred to the new scale, and the printed circuit drawn, bearing in mind all the rules laid down in the first article of this series.

Various aids are available for the draughtsman at this stage, as well as the graticuled board. Selfadhesive black circles are provided for component centres, and similar tape for the connecting lines can be obtained in any width required from a small machine at his side. A basic outline of any standard connections, etc., may be pre-printed on his board. Remaining parts of the drawing are done by painting in process black which is obtainable from most artists colourmen. Indian ink is not used, as its shiny surface interferes with later camera work. Naturally, if the special aids mentioned are not available, the whole drawing is done in process black. Corrections are made by painting over with a special white preparation or with the more easily obtained Chinese White oil colour. The master drawing of the circuit is shown in Fig. 11.

Layout

It will be seen that whilst the printed circuit wires run in any direction, the components are all parallel to the edges of the circuit board. This has no technical advantage, but, wherever possible, an orderly layout of components is better to look at, and a neat and workmanlike appearance is part of good engineering design.

Before leaving the subject of masters, mention must be made of a material known as "Astrascribe" used in industry for very large circuits. This is a plastic foil sheet, sometimes used on its own for printed circuit masters, as it is more stable dimensionally than Bristol Board. It is coated on one side with a non-actinic orange lacquer. The printed circuit is then "drawn" full size in negative form by scraping away the lacquer. A retouching fluid is available to cope with errors.

Having obtained the master drawing, the next step is to consider how the circuits are made. This will form the subject of the next article in the series.

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A.V.C. WITH "STRAIGHT" VALVES

VARYING SCREEN GRID VOLTAGES TO ALTER GAIN

By James Kaye

THE normal variable slope or variable-mu valve can have its gain altered by a change in the D.C. potential of the grid of the valve. Where the screen of the valve is fed via a feed resistor the valve compensates to quite an extent for the change in grid bias because the screen voltage rises. A rise in screen voltage increases the gain of the valve.

Obtaining the Control Voltage

During the last war the EF50 valve was introduced, and with it a circuit for the application of A.V.C. to the screen of the valve. Although the valve was a high slope "straight" type, varying the screen potential altered the gain. Thus A.V.C. can be obtained with straight valves, but the difficulty lies in obtaining the varying potential for the screened grid. The normal rectifier circuit gives the correct polarity, but if this is applied to a valve control grid to amplify it.

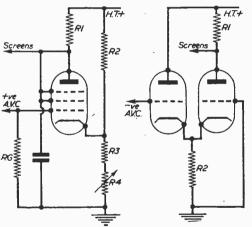


Fig. 1 (left) and Fig. 2 (right) give circuits for screen controlled A.V.C.

the polarity is reversed. Thus, a positive voltage is required to feed to a valve—or a polarity reversing device is necessary. The first is simple: the normal type of A.V.C. detector circuit is used from the L.F. valve anode, but the diode is reversed. This cannot be done with the normal double-diode-triode, but it can be achieved by the use of either a separate double-diode or one of the modern triple-diode-triodes such as the Mullard EABC80.

Circuit

In Fig. 1 is shown a simple circuit for screen control. The component values will depend to a very large extent on the valves available. The control valve can be almost any type strapped as a triode. a high slope triode, R.F. pentode, or even (and best of all) a high slope output valve. The grid is returned to earth by a suitable high

resistance such as 10 M Ω and should preferably be fed by way of a Pi network with a large time constant. R1 is the value of screen resistor that would normally be used for the screen supply of the combination of valves used. R2 should be of such a value that it passes about 5 to 10 mA. (the more current the better). R3 should be such that the valve will be nearly cut off, R4—a 500 or 1,000 ohms wire-wound pot. is for setting the A.V.C. delay characteristic. With the valve not cut off, there will be no A.V.C. delay, but if it is cut off the voltage in excess of cut-off will be the A.V.C. delay voltage.

Action of Circuit

A positive signal is rectified and applied to the grid of the valve. This has the effect of overcoming the cut-off and allowing the valve to pass current and so increase the voltage drop across R1. The larger the positive voltage applied to the grid then the larger the drop across R1 and the lower the gain of the controlled valves. The capacitor from the anode of the valve to chassis should be about 0.1 µF of ample working voltage. Separate decoupling between the screens of the valves fed can also be used to good effect.

A simple and inexpensive circuit is shown in Fig. 2 and two similar valves can be used for it. It can be fed off the normal negative A.V.C. line to increase A.V.C. efficiency in the receiver with the normal types of variable-mu valve-or used with straight valves. The circuit has only two resistors: R1 must allow for the triode to take some current, as well as feed the screens of the controlled valves. R2 must act both to couple the cathodes and over bias both valves considerably—the values of both these resistors will have to be found by experiment. When the negative control voltage is applied the current through V1 falls, reducing the voltage across R2 and in consequence the bias on V2. This latter then takes more current and reduces the screen voltages of the controlled valves. As stated the circuit values will depend on the valves used and will have to be found by trial and error.

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Edited by F. J. CAMM

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How Many Valves in Push-pull?

NE of my older readers. Mr. A. Brook, of Hastings, says that it is rather more than 33 years ago since he first read my writings in this journal. He remains a reader and marvels at the fact that I am still able to keep my beard from getting tangled in the wheels of my bathchair! I am delighted to say, however, that I have not yet reached that stage of decrepitude where I need a wheeled aid. I am pleased also to be able to say that I have never grown one of those revolting hirsute appendages known as a beard-an affectation now adopted by large numbers of young men to give. in conjunction with horn-rimmed spectacles, an owl-like and professorial veneer to an otherwise vapid and vacuous countenance. The radio trade is full of bearded youths, anxious to impress. Of course, they all smoke pipes as well to increase the illusion of "the thinker." Nor have I ever grown a moustache, being too fond of soup for either.

Mr. Brook asks me how many valves in all can be operated in parallel push-pull, ignoring problems of capacity which this might cause, in either audio or R.F. amplifiers. Whilst my own experience is limited to four valves, there is really no practical limit, although I cannot for the life of me understand why anyone should want to use more than four. This is a problem, however, which readers might like to debate.

Slanguage

HAD no idea so many people were taking note of the slipshod and would-be superior pronunciation used by announcers and artists. Some gems have reached me: Storbins (St. Albans); Mawbra (Marlborough); and Soresbery (Salisbury). It is impossible to distinguish between a BBC Malden and Morden, since they are both pronounced similarly. Evidently, this mispronunciation confuses other members of the BBC staff, for it is said that one producer required a fanfare as incidental music for a play. record library supplied a record of a mechanical organ and shouts of "roll up"-a funfare, which shows the danger of messing about with vowel sounds. The general tendency of artists to imitate negro pronunciation is adding to the confusion. No one could be more of a Cockney than Master T. Steele. He. however, must refer "Mar Bebby," uttered in a staccato fashion when he is really referring to some lady friend. These pop singers should remember that a bawl-

THERMION

ing voice and a background of din created by strumming on a draining board is not singing nor music.

"Educating Archie"

I PRESUME that the Research Department of the BBC has taken a measure of the popularity of Educating Archie sometime, and have facts to support the continuation of this inane programme with its plethora of feeble jokes and thin humour. I took a consensus of opinion the other day among a circle of my friends and found that not one liked this programme and I am wondering whether you agree with me. I see no purpose in having a ventri-loquial act on sound radio. The part of the dummy could be better performed by a human being. Indeed. Archie sounds as if he is a real person. If the programme is wanted, it should be confined to television.

Programmes for Tape and Hi-fi Enthusiasts:

ALL readers interested in tape recording and high fidelity will welcome the new series of programmes on sound which started on January 5th on Network 3. The BBC, in its announcement stated that the large and ever-growing body of enthusiasts for hi-fi sound reproduction and tape recording are to have their own programme entitled "Sound." It will consist of practical help and examples of first-class recordings and news of the latest developments. It will be a half-hour programme once a fortnight on Mondays at 6.45 p.m. on Network 3. On the Mondays in the weeks between, recorded repeats of the previous Monday's live programme will be broadcast at the same time.

Specialist dealers in tape and hi-fi will especially welcome this programme for it will be a great sales aid.



Mr. P. R. Thompson of Taunton, Somerset in his den.

It is known that there are at least 250,000 home tape recorders in use in this country and the number is increasing daily. The potential audience is therefore large.

gram selection and for switching the receiver off,

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Fig. 1 (a)—Circuit of F.M. R.F. and frequency-changer stages; A.M. frequency-changer stage and common I.F. amplifier. Note: The F.M. tuner unit (V1A and V1B) is used in several other models and, if heaters are wired in series, C11 is used as a heater by-pass capacitor.

while two concentric controls provide for the adjustment of volume and tone. The V.H.F. tuning drive is coupled to the tuning capacitor spindle and the tuning control knob is thus common to both the A.M. 2nd F.M. services.

With the application of negative feedback over the audio stages, a low distortion audio output of approximately 2.5 watts is given by the EL84 output valve. Facilities are provided for the connection of a high impedance (crystal) pick-up and for an extension permanent magnet loud-speaker having a speech coil impedance in the region of 2.5 ohms. An internal ferrite rod aerial for A.M. reception is permanently connected in circuit, but a socket is provided for the connection of an external aerial. For F.M. a loaded dipole is fitted to the back of the cabinet which, if required, can be connected to the V.H.F. aerial sockets by way of the 80-ohm feeder provided. In areas of weak V.H.F. signal, reception is much improved by abandoning the internal dipole and using a good indoor or outside aerial.

The receiver is suitable for use on A.C. supplies only (40-100 c/s), but can be adjusted over the ranges of 100-120 volts and 200-250 volts. Mains consumption is approximately 65 watts.

Valve Line-up

The circuit operates in two modes, one when switched to the long and medium bands and the other when switched to V.H.F. When switched to L.W. or M.W. the valve line-up is as follows: ECH81 (V2) frequency changer; EF89 (V3) first I.F. amplifier; EF89 (V4) second I.F. amplifier; EABC80 (V5) A.M. detector, A.G.C. diode and audio amplifier; EM81 (V6) tuning indicator;

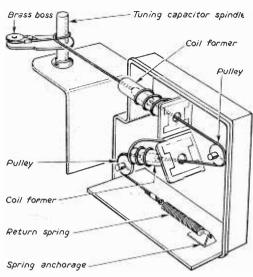


Fig. 2.-V.H.F. tuning cord drive.

EL84 (V7) output; EZ80 (V8) full-wave H.T. rectifier.

When switched to V.H.F. the circuit is slightly modified, the V.H.F. tuner is brought into circuit and the valve line-up is as follows: ECC85 (V1 in the tuner) V.H.F. amplifier and frequency changer; ECH81 (V2) heptode section as first I.F. amplifier; EF89 (V3) second I.F. amplifier; EF89 (V4) third I.F. amplifier; EABC80 (V5) ratio detector and audio amplifier; EM81 (V6) tuning

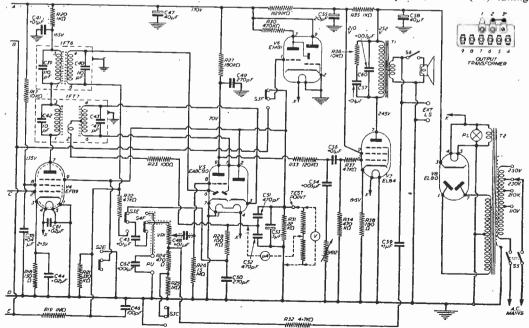


Fig. 1 (b).—Circuit of detector and output stages, power-pack and tuning indicator.

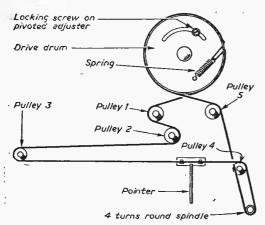


Fig. 3.—A.M. tuning cord drive.

indicator; EL84 (V7) output; EZ80 (V8) full-wave H.T. rectifier.

The Circuit

The valves as detailed above are numbered in accord with the circuit in Fig. 1. A fairly conventional arrangement is utilised, though the additional I.F. stage is worthy of note since it goes far in increasing the overall sensitivity, and renders the receiver useful in areas of weak V.H.F. signal.

When the receiver is switched to V.H.F., as shown in the circuit, the V.H.F. tuner is energised from the H.T. line via switches S3A and S4B and the I.F. output (10.7 Mc/s) is connected to the control grid of the heptode section of V2 via S2B and S1A. The triode A.M. oscillator is also muted by the opening of S3B, while the secondary of the A.M. I.F. transformer IFT2 and the primary of the A.M. I.F. transformer IFT2 are short circuited by switches S1E, S2F and S3D.

The A.F. signal from the ratio detector is developed across C50 and fed through S3E, C45 and S4F to the volume control VR1. From here the required level of signal is selected and fed through C48 to the grid of V5 triode. From the anode of this valve section, the amplified A.F. signal is applied to the output valve in the usual manner.

The rectified carrier voltage appearing across R31 is applied to the tuning indicator V6 via S3F. The voltage at this point is also applied to the suppressor grid of the third 1.F. amplifier valve V4 to provide a form of A.G.C. De-emphasis is provided by R28 and C50, and further tone correction is given by the tone control VR2 and C54.

The V.H.F. tuner is contained within a separate box and the tuning is achieved by means of spring-loaded dust-iron cores which traverse the oscillator and R.F. anode coils. The movement of the cores is controlled by means of a drive cord coupled to the spindle of the A.M. tuning capacitor. The arrangement is clearly illustrated in Fig. 2. In the event of a breakage of the drive cord or tuning cores, the manufacturer recommends the replacement of the complete drive cord and core assembly (part No. AP24888).

When the receiver is switched to the L.W. M.W. bands, the V.H.F. tuner is disconnected and the A.M. oscillator is energised. The shorts from across the A.M./I.F. transformers are removed and the receiver functions as a conventional A.M. model, but with two I.F. stages.

The A.M. detector load is R21, and the A.F. signal here is conveyed to the grid of V5 triode section as before by S3E changing over. The suppressor grid of V4 is earthed by S2E and the control voltage for the tuning indicator V6 is taken from the A.G.C. line, which itself is fed from the detector load. A.G.C. bias is applied to both I.F. stages and to the-frequency changer.

Current feedback is applied to the output valve by the omission of a cathode bypass capacitor and voltage feedback is taken from the secondary of the output transformer, through C59 and R32. to the control grid circuit of V5 triode. The voltage feedback is somewhat frequency selective. being greater at the higher frequencies owing to the reducing reactance of C59 as the frequency is increased. The A.F. response is smoothed and controlled by the components across the primary of the output transformer.

Servicing Notes

In the event of failure of the A.M. drive cord, a good quality nylon drive cord should be used as a replacement, or the complete clip and drive cord assembly (part No. P1940) should be obtained from the makers, and should be installed in accord with the diagram in Fig. 3.

The scale lamp is rated at 6.5 volts 0.3 amp, and this can also be obtained from the makers

under part No. AP18628.

Complete Failure

Lack of signals on all bands should lead first to a check of the H.T. line voltage across C47. If there is no voltage here, but there is voltage across C55, the trouble is caused by open-circuit of R29 and a possible short in C47. If voltage is present at the cathode (pin 3) of the rectifier V8, but is missing from across C55, R35 should be suspected for open-circuit: these filter resistors often go open-circuit. but are easy to

If H.T. is available all the way through the receiver, the A.F. stages can be quickly checked by putting a finger on the centre tag of the volume control when the control is turned full on. If this does not result in a loud hum from the loudspeaker, then the trouble lies in V5 or V7 or in the associated circuits. Open-circuits of R27 or of the primary of the output transformer gives this symptom. There is also the possibility of course, that the loudspeaker speech coil is open-circuit or that the speaker is disconnected from the secondary circuit; a check should be made of the speaker switch.

If the A.F. stages are working correctly, a fault is present in stages V2, V3 or V4. Valve trouble is the most likely cause, and this will destroy the operation of the tuning indicator, though this may work normally on tuning a station even if the A.F. section is defective, provided the diodes in V5 are in good working

order.

(Continued on page .52) -



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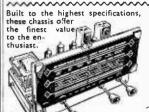
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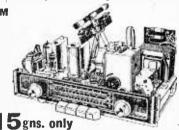
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PRESENT-DAY METHODS USING TWO TRANSMITTERS

By J Booth

T is now general knowledge that when two or more separate and quite independent audio channels are used to record and reproduce, say an orchestra, so that the original spaciousness and perspective of the complex sound are re-created by the loudspeaker system in the listening room, the result is said to be stereophonic sound.

Present stereo practice, from the domestic angle, makes use of just two channels. At the transmitting end two microphones are placed in such a way that one is more responsive to sounds originating from the right-hand side of the source of sound, while the other is more responsive to sounds originating from the left-hand Eventually the signals are fed to two separate loudspeakers, these being arranged in the listening room to give the best stereo illusion (see Fig. 1).

Two Radio Channels

There are no great problems involved in the broadcasting of stereo sound, and a method which has been adopted experimentally both in this country and in the U.S.A. calls for the use of two independent radio channels and transmitters at the sending end and two receivers at the listening end. This is very expensive as it calls for duplicated equipment throughout the chain. as can be seen from Fig. 2. Nevertheless, the method does serve to illustrate the feasibility of stereo broadcasting.

Over the past several months, the BBC has been actively engaged in stereo broadcasting experiments. Television and V.H.F. channels and medium wavelengths have been utilised in various combinations to carry the right-hand and lefthand stereo signals so that the greatest number of listeners could participate in the experiment.

A further series of tests at fortnightly intervals between 10.15 and 11.15 a.m. on Saturdays are being carried out by the BBC at the time of writing. Both medium-wave and V.H.F. Network Three transmitters are used for the left-hand channel, while the BBC television sound transmitters are used for the right-hand channel.

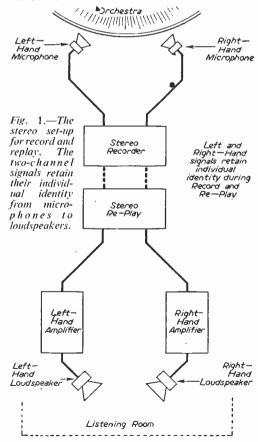
Readers can participate in these experimental stereo transmissions by using a TV receiver and either an ordinary broadcast receiver, tuned to M.W., or a V.H.F. receiver. The loudspeakers of the two receivers should be spaced by about 6ft, to 8ft, and the listener should be approximately equidistant from each. For the best stereo illusion, the quality and level of the sound from each loudspeaker should be matched as far as possible.

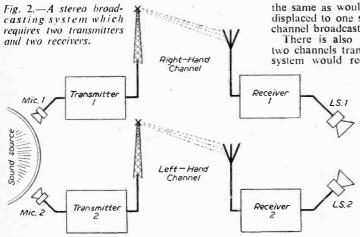
Because the phase difference between the signals in each channel has a governing effect on the stereo illusion, the use of two transmitters far removed from each other may disturb this phase relationship and detract from the quality

of the stereo. This is, at least, one shortcoming of stereo broadcasting from separate transmitters which are not co-sited.

In America, two separately owned F.M. stations sometimes get together so that one station broadcasts the sound of one channel while the sound of the other channel is being broadcast by the other station. The idea is the same as the experiments of the BBC. of course, but in America the difficulties must be greater as the stations are not under a common control.

A regular service adopting a method using two transmitters is hardly good economics, and is very unlikely to be employed. There is also the question of compatibility, for if stereo was not required by a listener, tuning in to just one of the stereo channels would give him only one half of the available audio signal, which would not be the same as a balanced single-channel broadcast.





Two Audio Channels on a Common Carrier

There is no undue difficulty in carrying two (or more) audio channels by way of a single transmitter using only one carrier. This technique is not new by any means, and represents the basis of multi-channel radio links. It obviously has potentialities with regard to stereo broadcasting, and has been the subject of many experiments in America. The system is usually referred to as "multiplex" broadcasting. One channel is transmitted by the F.M. or A.M. station in the ordinary manner, while the other channel modulates a sub-carrier which is not at a very high frequency, but is outside the audio spectrum. A sub-carrier in the region of 50 kc/s is quite common. This modulated sub-carrier is itself then caused to modulate the main carrier along with the modulation of the normally transmitted channel.

At the receiving end, an ordinary receiver, tuned to the station carrier, would reproduce the audio which was normally modulated. The subcarrier would also be demodulated by the receiver, but since this is well above the audio spectrum it would not be heard and would, in any case, be highly attenuated by the receiver's detector and A.F. section filters.

In order to extract the intelligence of the channel carried by the sub-carrier, the demodulated sub-carrier present at the receiver's detector would have to be directed into a further detector circuit. The audio output of this circuit would be fed into a second A.F. amplifier and loudspeaker system to match those of the receiver proper. The arrangement is illustrated in Fig. 3.

While the general idea is admirably suitable for stereo broadcasting, it again suffers from the drawback of incompatibility: an ordinary receiver & tuned to the station would reproduce only the signal in one channel—this being the right-hand channel in Fig. 3. The channel—this being the right-hand channel in Fig. 3. The reproduction would not be unduly mutilated, of course, but it would lack balance, exactly

the same as would occur if the microphone were displaced to one side of an orchestra on a singlechannel broadcasting system.

There is also the question of bandwidth, for two channels transmitted by the simple multiplex system would require at least twice the band-

width of a single-channel From the aspect of system. the power radiated from the transmitter, this may well introduce a power reduction of some four times (6 db power).

Sum and Difference Method

In order to render this stereo broadcasting system compatible, experiments are being carried out in the U.S.A. at the present time on what is known the sum and as difference method. carrier is used as before, but

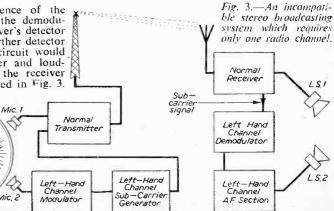
the transmitter is modulated in the normal way with the sum of the signals in the two channels. This sum signal is equivalent to that from a correctly balanced single-channel system.

The signals in the two channels are also subtracted from each other to produce a difference signal, and it is this signal which is used to modulate the sub-carrier. In order to take advantage of the stereo feature of the transmission, it is necessary to employ a decoding arrangement and an additional audio channel at the receiver, as before. The decoder serves to recover the difference signals and combine them in correct proportion to the audio in the two receiver channels so as to secure the correct stereo illusion.

Percival Method

Experiments along these lines are also going on in this country in the research laboratories of E.M.I. under the direction of Dr. W. S. Percival, who has devised a compatible stereo broadcasting system which differs somewhat from developed in America.

In order to secure compatibility, the signals in (Continued on page 56)



Mic. 2

THE THERMISTOR IN PRACTICE

THESE HEAT-SENSITIVE DEVICES ARE WIDELY USED TO-DAY

By James Seaforth

THERMISTOR of the form adopted in radio and television receivers looks rather like a carbon resistor which has dissipated power far in excess of its wattage rating. Indeed, it may well be taken for such an ill-used component by the novice enthusiast when it is first discovered in a set which is being investigated for total failure.

The fact that it gets very hot may also heighten the impression that overloading as the result of a circuit fault is to blame—it being assumed that the high temperature was responsible for the removal of the paint colour markings.

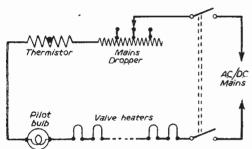


Fig. 1.—A series-connected thermistor avoids current surges in a heater chain.

It should be known that thermistors are designed to get very hot and this is the reason why they are devoid of paint and identification marks, which would not survive when the component is put into service.

Temperature Sensitive

A thermistor is in essence a resistor, but it differs from the normal run of resistors inasmuch as its value decreases greatly as its temperature increases. It is thus highly heat sensitive and is endowed with a negative temperature coefficient of resistance.

It may be utilised in one of two ways. In one way the component's sensitivity to temperature change may be exploited for the controlling of a current which is actually present in the thermistor and causing it to heat. And in the other way the component's change in resistance owing to variation in ambient temperature may be used to stabilise a secondary circuit of which the resistance has a tendency to drift in the opposite direction.

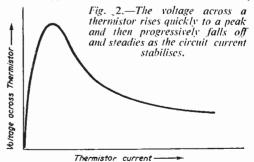
A thermistor is invariably introduced into a series-connected heater chain (see Fig. 1). Heaters used in valves have a positive temperature coefficient of resistance. This means that when the heater is cold its resistive value is considerably below its normal operating value when hot. With series-connected heaters the chain current is governed by the value of the ballast or mains dropping resistor, and this is calculated in accord with the heater current of the valves.

Thus, when the set is first switched on, the heater resistance is well below normal and the chain current starts off at an abnormally high value and falls off gradually to normal as the heaters increase in resistance. This is not too bad if the heaters increase in resistance together and in step as they warm up. Unfortunately, this does not usually happen, and one or two heaters may reach normal operating temperature and resistance some time before the others when the chain current is high. Since less voltage is dropped by the valves still warming up, an excessive voltage is developed across the valves which have gained their normal temperature and resistance, which means that their heaters are somewhat overloaded which is likely to result in premature failure.

This can be avoided by the use of a series-connected thermistor. The relatively high resistance of the component when cold serves to limit the heater chain current initially flowing through it, but it inevitably warms up and gradually decreases in resistance as the valve heaters increase in resistance. The positive temperature coefficient of the resistance of the heater chain is thus neutralised by the negative temperature coefficient of resistance of the thermistor and harmful current surges are in this way eliminated.

To cater for the variation in valve heating

To cater for the variation in valve heating time within a large chain of valves such as is present in television receivers. It is sometimes necessary to shunt the thermistor with a wirewound resistor of a certain value so as to delay the drop in thermistor resistance until the heaters have had an opportunity to become temperature stable. The value of the shunt resistor is not sufficiently low to permit the passage of a substantial current before the thermistor's resistance drops to its hot value, but it is low enough when cold to bypass some of the chain current away



from the thermistor and thus delay its warming up time.

The cold resistance of a thermistor may be several thousand ohms—the Brimistor CZI is 3.000 ohms at 20 deg. C.—but only tens of ohms when hot and passing maximum current.

The hotter that a thermistor becomes the lower falls its resistance, and if the current were not

limited by some means it would get red hot and collapse. In a limited current circuit, however, the voltage across the thermistor rises quickly to a peak and then progressively falls off and steadies as the circuit current stabilises. This is shown in Fig. 2.

Pilot Bulb Shunt

If a pilot bulb which is connected in a heater chain fails the chain is broken and the heaters go out. This is less liable to happen if a series thermistor is adopted as current surges are then almost eliminated. To prevent a pilot bulb from being over-run a wire-wound resistor is invariably connected in shunt so that the bulb is protected from the full chain current-a portion of it then

being bypassed by the shunt resistor. Should the bulb fail under such a condition. though, the heaters will continue to be energised since the shunt resistor will maintain chain continuity, but they will then be underrun owing to the extra resistance which will be wholly effective in the chain. By utilising a thermistor as a bulb shunt the trouble is avoided, for in the event of bulb failure the thermistor will quickly heat up and its very low hot resistance will have little or no effect on the chain current. A type CZ3 Brimistor is suitable for this application, provided the heater current does not exceed 0.2 ampere.

Rectifier Valve and Reservoir Capacitor Pro-

A thermistor is highly suitable as a surgelimiting device in H.T. rectifier circuits. Normally, when high value electrolytics are employed, especially for reservoir capacitors, the switch-on current may be excessive and lead to flashing in the rectifier and excessive loading on the electro-The inclusion of a thermistor, as shown in Fig. 3, gives the components a longer life. A

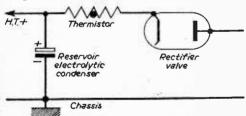


Fig. 3 - A thermistor serves as an efficient surgelimiter.

type CZ1/A is suitable for D.C. up to 100 mA, a type CZ6 for 100 to 200 mA and a type C4 for D.C. exceeding 200 mA,

H.T. Voltage Delay

If a directly-heated H.T. rectifier valve is employed, the voltage across the electrolytic capacitors may rise to a dangerously high level during the period before the indirectly heated valves pass current. When the valves conduct, of course, the H.T. circuit is loaded and the voltage falls below the open-circuit voltage level.

Usually, this is taken care of by the use of an indirectly heated rectifier, but there may be a time when the correct valve is not available and a directly heated substitute is contemplated.

A voltage delay comparable with an indirectly heated valve can be accomplished with a directly heated valve by the inclusion of a thermistor in the rectifier circuit as shown in Fig. 4.

When selecting a thermistor for this application, due consideration must be given to the fact that the R.M.S. current in the H.T. secondary tap will be approximately 1.6 times the D.C. output current at the rectifier heater.

Compensation for Increase in Resistance of Coils

With the older-style television receiver in which a focus coil is used, readjustment of the focus control is invariably necessary to combat focus drift which occurs progressively as the temperature

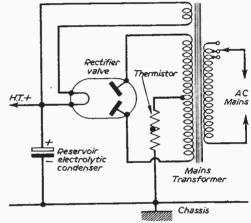


Fig. 4.—A voltage delay is given to a directly-heated H.T. rectifier by the introduction of a thermistor in the circuit, as shown.

of the coil increases. The coil, being wound with copper wire, increases in resistance as it warms up and the coil current falls as a consequence, thereby altering the focusing field.

Focus stability can be accomplished by the insertion of a thermistor in the circuit of the focus coil, as shown in Fig. 5. In this case, however, it is necessary to place the thermistor snugly against the focus coil so that its change in temperature is efficiently transferred to the thermistor.

Thus, as the coil and thermistor warm up, the coil resistance increase is neutralised by the decrease in resistance of the thermistor, and in this way the current and the focusing field are stabilised.

It will, of course, be appreciated that exact compensation demands that the fall in thermistor resistance will be precisely the same as the increase in coil resistance over the range of temperature variation encountered. To provide such a balance it may be necessary to shunt the thermistor with a compensating resistor (shown in broken line in Fig. 5). Another balancing artifice which has been satisfactorily adopted by the author resolves to the adjustment of the characteristic of the thermistor by filing away small portions of the composition until the coefficient characteristics of the thermistor and coil match in opposition.

The thermistor should be dressed in a thin insulating material and strapped tightly to the outside of the focus coil by empire tape.

The thermistor is capable of providing similar compensation to other sections of the receiver where temperature change alters the circuit parameters. For example, temperature increase of the frame scanning coils and frame output transformer often results in a reduction in frame scan amplitude, necessitating frequent adjustment of the height control. A thermistor thermally coupled to the offending winding or windings and introduced into the frame circuit where its resistance variation will combat the rise in coil resistance solves the problem. In this respect. it is often possible to insert the thermistor in the cathode circuit of the frame amplifier valve provided it is suitably "padded" with a resistor to make up the correct nominal value of cathode resistance. Brimistor type CZ2 or CZ3 units are suitable for the above applications.

Transistor Applications

Transistors themselves are heat sensitive, and as a result large and disturbing variations in their operating currents may well occur when operating under differing temperature conditions. The thermistor is an ideal agent for eliminating this trouble. In Fig. 6 is shown a transistor-amplifier stage, in which a thermistor is employed in the base bias stabilising network. As the transistor

temperature increases the collector current would normally increase, but this is offset by the thermistor which serves to reduce the base bias current.

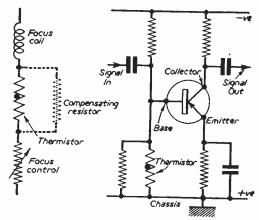


Fig. 5 (Left).—A thermistor is highly suitable for stabilising the current in a focus coil.

Fig. 6 (Right).—A suitable thermistor in the base potential divider of a transistor serves to offset the increase in collector current with temperature increase.

BICC Polypole Coupler Systems

BRITISH INSULATED CALLENDER'S

CABLES LIMITED have introduced polypole coupler systems to provide the equipment designer with everything necessary for the reliable interconnection of electronic and similar types of equipment. Typical applications are studio, outside broadcast and industrial television camera chains (including colour), ground radar, radio relay links and specialised signalling, remote control, observation and measuring equipment.

Main Components

The main components of BICC polypole coupler systems are multicore cables terminated with moulded-on couplers, and appropriate panel-mounting units to which terminated cables may be connected. Cable couplers normally consist of a robust moulding which both holds the individual plug and socket contacts in position, and also provides a firm anchor for the cable. This moulding is, in turn, encased in a strong metallic housing. The cable couplers include straight and right-angled types, and in some flanges are incorporated for permanent mounting. At the



A BICC 37-way, moulded-on polypole coupler.

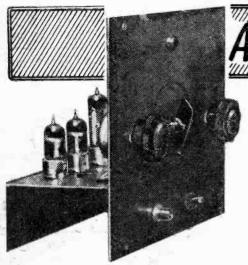
point of entry into coupler the cable is also protected against severe bending either by a substantial rubber muff or, in some cases, by a tough epoxy moulding. Panel-mounting couplers are provided with mounting flanges and are fitted with short flexible insulated tails of appropriate types.

Couplers are normally of the plug and socket type, although alternative dual-purpose designs which are identical and interconnectable are available for some systems. For both types lengths of cable may be connected one to another to increase the distance between units of equipment.

For some types of coupler, equivalent demountable versions are available, thus facilitating rapid repairs especially in countries overseas, when the return of couplers to Great Britain may be difficult or expensive. Nevertheless, BICC moulded couplers in general are more robust, better able to withstand vibrations when used with mobile equipment, have superior electrical properties and are less susceptible to moisture ingress, than are the demountable types.

Joined by Lock Rings

The couplers are joined together by lock rings on the socket-type couplers which engage screw threads on the metal housings of the plug type and thus provide the force necessary to engage or disengage the coupler contacts. Where necessary, special tools are available and should be used to ensure that the couplers are properly engaged. In order to ensure correct connections, couplers of a given system are made with specific and selective keyway arrangements. If required, protective caps of either metal or moulded polythene can be supplied.



A WIDE-RANGE AUD

THIS UNIT COVERS 6 TO 70,000 C/S IN FOU

two sets of switched condensers; the variable ganged resistors and their associated series limiters; the cathode load of the first valve and the thermistor.

More accurate setting of the frequency is possible if continuously variable capacitors are used in conjunction with switched, fixed resistors; this method was, however, discarded on the grounds that a 4-gang variable condenser would

THE usual signal generator coverage of 20-20,000 c/s is no longer sufficient with the introduction of hi-fi amplifiers, magnetic tape recorders and the like. The circuit to be described has a coverage of 6-70,000 c/s and it is found that in particular the extended high frequency range is very useful for covering the bias and crase frequencies of magnetic tape recorders. The circuit also has the advantage of simplicity

View from above:

be needed which would be clumsy and prone to pick-up.

It was therefore decided to use ganged potentio-

Circuit Description

The chosen circuit is basically a relatively low impedance Wien Bridge network, formed by the

and can be built into a small compact unit.

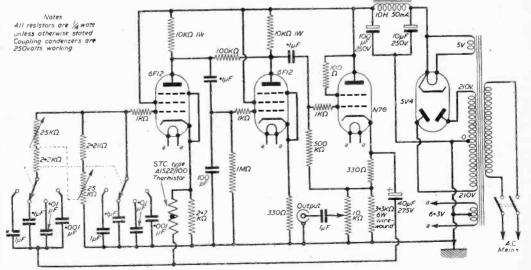


Fig. 1.—The complete circuit diagram of the signal generator.

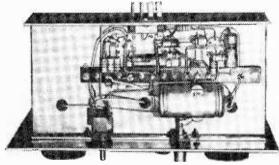
OSIGNAL GENERATOR

RANGES

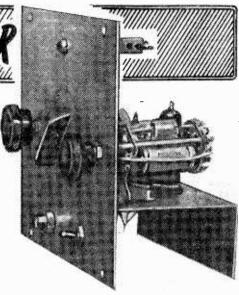
By K. J. Clark, B.Sc., A.M.Inst.E.

meters of value chosen so that the smallest value of capacity required for the high frequency range is still large enough to avoid instability owing to stray capacity occurring.

The values finally chosen are as shown: 25 k Ω ganged potentiometers, with a fixed series limiting resistor of 2.2 k Ω , together with condenser values of 1.0 μ F, .1 μ F, .01 μ F, .001 μ F. These provide frequency ranges of 6-70 c/s, 60-700 c/s. 600-7,000 c/s, 6,000-70,000 c/s respectively. The switched



Underchassis view.



condensers are a coarse range control and the ganged potentiometers a fine control.

Special precautions are taken to ensure constant amplitude over the entire frequency range; namely the insertion of a cathode follower and a thermistor. The output is fed via the cathode follower V3 ensuring a low output impedance. Thus any variation of the output load has only a small effect on the oscillator and amplifier circuits. A

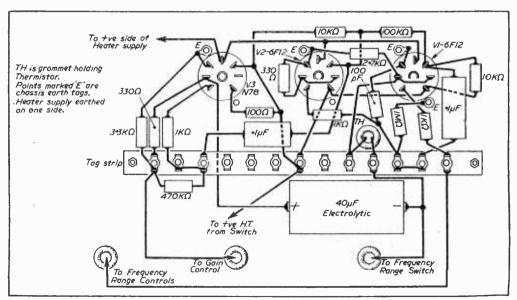


Fig. 2.—Underchassis wiring of the unit.

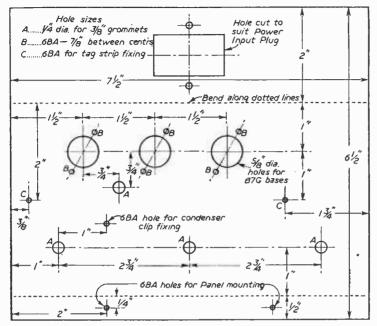
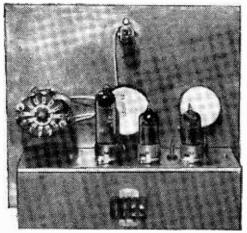


Fig. 3,—Details for the drilling of the chassis.

further small degree of control is provided by the thermistor, resulting in constant amplitude and also very good waveform shape, this being a pure sine wave.

The choice of valves is by no means critical, since any high-slope pentode may be used for the amplifiers V1 and V2 and similarly any high-slope output valve may be used as the cathode follower. Both are simple circuits having, in addition to the normal arrangement, feed-back loops in the anode of the amplifier valve and in the eathode of the output cathode-follower.

It should, however, be noted that a fairly highpower output valve should be used since a large



View from the rear.

voltage swing is needed so that, on switching on, the thermistor is forced past the peak of its characteristic curve when it will operate correctly.

The 40 µF feed-back capacitor is of such a high value because of the need to maintain good waveform shape at very low frequencies. It was decided to use an electrolytic to reduce the physical size of this component. Provided that a high voltage type is used as specified there will be no deterioration in waveform. which could be brought about through leakage in the condenser. The case of this electrolytic should, of course, be insulated from the chassis.

Output

The output from this circuit may be summarised as follows: a pure sine wave, continuously variable over a frequency range of

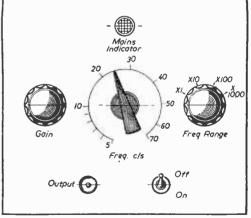


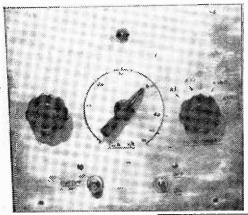
Fig. 4.—The front panel.

6-70.000 c/s. An amplitude of up to approximately 45 volts, peak-to-peak, is provided at the relatively low output impedance of approximately 200 ohms. Harmonic distortion and amplitude variation is negligible over the entire range: two very desirable factors in testing high-fidelity equipment.

Amplitude control is effected by the addition of a $10 \text{ k}\Omega$ potentiometer in the output cathode of the cathode-follower.

Calibration

The unit is capable of operating to a very high cegree of accuracy and stability. The accuracy



these values so that the coarse range switch may then be simply marked x1, x10, x100, x1,000.

4. Fit condensers into the other ranges of very slightly lower values than those stated so that padding with parallel condensers will bring them into line.

5. Switch to the first range, select a frequency near the centre of the dial and add padding condensers until the correct frequency value to match the marked scale is obtained. The calibration may then be assumed to be correct over the rest of the range.

6. Repeat this for the remaining two ranges, remembering the multiplication factor of 10 between each range. Only one spot frequency check is necessary on each range.

7. Mark the coarse range switch with the multiplication factors as above.

The front panel.

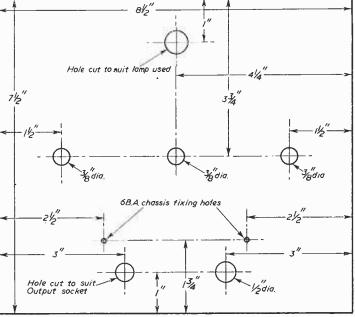
actually obtained depends only on the degree of calibration accuracy. Probably the simplest way is to measure the frequency of the output waveform by displaying the output on an oscilloscope, proceeding as follows:

1. Fit the two .01 µF condensers, which should be 1 per cent. and preferably matched.

2. Read off frequencies for various positions of the ganged potentiometer, marking the positions and noting the values.

3. Mark the scale calibrations from 6-70 c/s according to the positions found above.

Note that the frequencies actually measured were in the range 600-7,000 c/s, since I per cent. condensers value .01 µF are readily available, but the actual scale markings are made one hundredth of



Wiring to On-Off Switch and Fig. 6 (Relow)—Wiring above To IKO
Mains Indicator Lamp not shown the chassis:

To junction
3300 and
33 KD
Earth

Gain Control

Output Frequency
Frequency Frequency Frequency Socket

Frequency Coarse
Switch

Fig. 5.— Drilling of front panel.

Construction

The lay-out is in no way critical and no special precautions need be taken (except that the 1 kΩ grid stoppers should be as near to the valve bases as possible). Power supplies are entirely conventional as shown in the circuit. The output of the mains transformer may be anywhere in the range- 200-0-200 to 250--0-250 volts without affecting the performance to any degree. The smoothing capacitor is large to bypass low frequencies.

An Economy Mains Transportable

No. 3.-FINAL DETAILS OF THE RECEIVER

By R. Hindle

(Concluded from page 984 of the February issue)

TT will be found that to make the spindle coincide with the hole the tuning capacitor has to be mounted a little way clear of the chassis. The mounting is by three tapped holes on the capacitor frame and the method adopted is to cut three in. lengths of screwed rod (the capacitor used is tapped for 4 B.A.). These are screwed into the mounting holes taking care that they do not project through the frame and foul the vanes, and a lock nut run on and screwed up to the frame on the underneath so as to hold the rod firmly in place. Another nut placed loosely on each bolt can be adjusted until the component is level and at the right height when fitted in the mounting holes on the chassis. The whole is locked into position by means of a further nut on each bolt underneath the chassis so that the final appearance is as in Fig. 4.

Leaving the tuning capacitor mounted in position, the backplate of the dial should be removed temporarily and the drive drum slipped on to the shaft, locking it centrally over the drive cord holes with the break in the rim at the bottom nearest the chassis. The driving spindle is mounted so that the part that takes the cord is in line with the cord holes and the drum and the cord can then be placed into position, passing the cord round the drive spindle twice. up through the holes, round the drum until the two ends meet at the bottom of the drum; then both ends come up through the break in the rim and are fixed to the cord spring so that this will keep the cord taut. The drum should be locked to the capacitor spindle by means of the lock screws so that the vanes are at the middle of their run when the drum is in the position specified.

The only components mounted on top of the chassis are the I.F. transformers, tuning capacitor. heater transformer, output transformer, speaker and twin electrolytic capacitor C12. C13. The smoothing choke goes inside the chassis and is

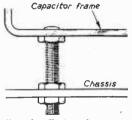
mounted on the rear wall, and the mains rectifier is bolted to the underneath of the chassis so that its base is in good thermal contact with the metal of the chassis. An aluminium bracket is made to hold the strip of trimmers facing the open end of the chassis alongside the wavechange switch. Two tag strips, each with two tags and earth are fitted in the positions indicated in the wiring diagram. One fixes on one of the tuning capacitor bolts and the other is fixed by means of one of the bolts for the holder of V4. A soldering tag is used for earthing components associated with V1. V2 and V3. this being in each case fixed by means of one of the valve-holder bolts in the position shown on the wiring diagram.

Wiring

Before commencing wiring it is as well to try the chassis in the cabinet in order to ensure that no mechanical snags are going to arise. It is

easier to deal with these at this early stage than when the chassis has been completely wired.

Fig. 3 gave the wiring of the chassis. As usual, it is recommended that the heater and mains wiring be done first, using well insulated wire for the Fig. 4.—Fixing the tuning latter and keeping these leads in close



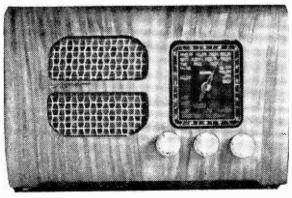
capacitor.

proximity to the chassis. Signal leads, on the other hand, take the most direct route from place to place, and do not necessarily follow the route indicated on the diagram because inevitably when an attempt is made to draw the connections the run has to be changed somewhat for the purposes of clarity. The diagram gives the positions of

tag strips and earthing tags.

Precautions with A.C./D.C. Technique

There are some precautions that must be taken in the case of a receiver in which the chassis is connected to the mains as in the present design, but if these are taken there is no undue risk. Some of these have to be taken in the course of construction. A back is provided for the cabinet and, of course, this must be fitted when the receiver is in use. The spindles of the controls are in metallic connection with the chassis. If the knobs fit snugly to the chassis it is a good idea to cut a felt washer to fit behind each: a very slight pressure on the knob against the washer whilst tightening the grub screw will then seal the gap between knob and cabinet. Where the knob cannot be fitted snugly in this way the method



A view of the finished receiver.

used is to wrap a piece of transparent sticky tape around the spindle. Unless the tops of the grub screws sink well into the knob so that they cannot be touched, the holes over these screws should be filled in with wax. The constructor will have to carry out some adjustments with the chassis out of its cabinet, so he must remember not to touch it with his hands without disconnecting the mains. Trinming tools used for adjustment are insulated; if proper tools are not available they can be improvised by using a piece of plastic knitting needle or similar material filed to the shape of a screwdriver blade at one end.

Operating the Receiver

Wiring should be carefully checked before attempting to apply power to the receiver. When satisfied on this score, testing and alignment can proceed. Remember all the time that mains is connected to the chassis. As the dial is not fixed to the chassis it is necessary to mark on the backplate the positions to be used in alignment. Only two points are needed, one at the upper end of the dial and one at the lower end. a signal generator is to be used it is convenient to make one point the harmonic of the other so that it is then unnecessary to adjust the generator during the course of the alignment. Conveniently, 450 metres and 225 metres are used for this purpose, because both these points are marked on the dial, and by tuning the generator to 450 metres the other position is the second harmonic. Of course, if alignment is to be done without a signal generator it will be necessary to take the wavelengths of two stations that are generally received at good strength and as near as possible to the two wavelengths specified above. It would be as well to purchase the I.F. transformers pre-aligned so that very little adjustment will be needed. Having determined the wavelengths on which alignment is to take place, the chassis is fitted into place in the cabinet and the tuner adjusted to the correct place on the dial. Now withdraw the chassis and place a small pencil mark to indicate the position of the pointer on the dial backplate. Repeat this operation for the other frequency to be used for alignment. This step is not necessary, of course, if the dial is fixed to the chassis.

Alignment

The first step in alignment is to adjust the I.F. transformers. If a signal generator is available set up these for 465 kc/s; otherwise it will be necessary to obtain a signal before adjusting. (If the I.F. transformers are prealigned, this should be possible.)

If it is impossible to obtain a signal on the ferrite rod aerial at this stage, an aerial can be connected to the end of the medium-wave aerial coil remote from earth, and, of course, the wave-change switch must be set to medium waves. Now tune in any signal and adjust the I.F. transformers for maximum signal. There are no A.V.C. complications in this receiver and the optimum point should be clearly defined. Of course, if a signal generator was used these circuits will have been set up previously and will

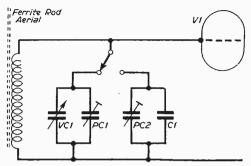


Fig. 5.—Modification to give M.W. pre-tuned station.

not now need to be re-adjusted. Now tune in the signal to be used for alignment at the upper wavelength end and adjust the core of the oscillator coil for maximum. Turning to the signal at the lower wavelength end, the oscillator trimmer is adjusted for maximum, and these two adjustments are made alternately until no further improvement can be achieved. Now remove the aerial if one has been used and align the aerial circuit in a similar way, sliding the medium-wave coil on the ferrite rod aerial for maximum at the upper wavelength position and adjusting the aerial trimmer at the lower wavelength position. Take great care in adjusting the ferrite rod coil in view of the connection of the mains to the chassis, and use an insulated tool for this and other adjustments.

Long Waves

When satisfied with the medium-wave setting turn to the long waves. From now on no further adjustment of the medium-wave circuits must be made; the two long-wave trimmers only must be adjusted. In order to ensure that only these are moved it is as well to mark clearly the four trimmers. An aerial can again be brought into use if the long-wave station cannot be heard—there will be no purpose in turning the tuning capacitor control as it will have no effect and the signal is searched for by adjusting the long-wave oscillator trimmer. When the station is heard both oscillator and aerial trimmer are adjusted for maximum signal. If the station comes in with either trimmer at maximum or minimum it will be necessary to alter the value of the fixed capacitors already fitted across that trimmer-if the trimmer is screwed right in for maximum results the equivalent fixed capacitor should be changed for one about 50 pF larger, or if it is screwed out the fixed capacitor needs to be 50 pF smaller.

M.W. Light Programme

The constructor may have no need for long wave for the Light programme, in which case he could get the same facilities by providing preset tuning for the medium-wave Light programme. The fixed capacitor C4 will now be less in value than that quoted, the actual size depending on the particular conditions, but will probably be no more than 30 pF and so only small sizes need be tried; it might be found that the trimmer by itself suffices. Only a medium-wave winding

will be needed on the ferrite rod aerial and the bench but this must be done carefully so that switch SW1 (a), will have to be wired to the the windings are not damaged and it should not circuit given in Fig. 5. Once more, C1 will be be dragged about by the leads when moving

only small.

A refinement that the constructor may wish to have is a dial light: the position of this is indicated on the circuit diagram but not on the wiring diagram. If this is needed a wire should be run from the side of the 6.3 v. winding of the mains transformer remote from earth and taken through one of the holes through the chassis. A holder of the clip-on variety was used for the prototype. A small bracket of aluminium was made and bolted in one of the holes on the dial backplate. This was of such a size that the holder would fit on it and when so fixed hold the dial light just over the backplate. When the chassis was then placed in the cabinet the glass dial was adequately lit.

Adjustment of Receiver .

During the adjustment of the receiver it is necessary to have the ferrite rod accessible so that the coils can be adjusted. It will be noticed that the beginning of each winding is connected to earth. This lead is placed on the component itself so that there are only three leads from the receiver to the rod. These should be left long enough for the aerial to be mounted inside, but at the top of the cabinet. Having done this, during tests, the aerial can be left lying on the

bench but this must be done carefully so that the windings are not damaged and it should not be dragged about by the leads when moving the chassis. Also, it must not be allowed to come into contact with any earthed object because one end is connected to one side of the mains. The two clips are screwed to the top of the cabinet so that the aerial can clip into them.

It should be remembered that the proximity of metal will affect the inductance of the coils and will upset the adjustment, so keep it clear of the chassis. If this precaution is taken it is unlikely that the change resulting from moving the aerial into its place inside the cabinet will cause the need for further adjustment. The ferrite rod aerial is directional, of course, and so it should be turned until the best signal is obtained and when making the preliminary search for stations this factor should be in mind. In practice it is found that the ferrite rod tends to be almost unidirectional and so if one maximum is not good enough, results may be improved by turning the aerial through 180 degrees. Incidentally this directional effect can be put to good use to reduce interference, and also in the comparatively rare cases where the signal picked up is large enough to overload the receiver, the input may be reduced by turning the aerial away from the direction of maximum signal.

Note that an earth connection must not be fitted to this receiver.

SERVICING RADIO RECEIVERS

(Continued from page 38)

If the F.M. section operates, but the A.M. section is dead, the fault possibly lies in the A.M. oscillator, and if the triode anode voltage is normal, V2 should be checked by substitution. There is also the possibility that C20 or C21 is open-circuit.

If the A.M. section operates, but the F.M. section is dead, the V.H.F. tuner or the switching is at fault. VI should first be checked by substitution, and if the fault is still present, a continuity test should be made across the associated switches.

Distortion

A frequent cause is low emission of V7 or low H.T. voltage due to a faulty rectifier, but a leak in C56 will considerably upset the valve's bias and result in the same symptom and almost certainly ruin the output valve at the same time. R27 increasing in value is another cause of the trouble, as also is emission failure of V5 triode.

Modulation hum on a V.H.F. signal is sometimes promoted by trouble in the diodes of V5. A substitution check of the valve soon proves this, however. A constant mains hum (100 c/s) should lead immediately to a check of the smoothing capacitors.

A test point is available for the connecting of instruments during the alignment operation. This is shown on the circuit. Two matched 47 k resistors are connected in series between the test point and chassis and the voltage across them

is metered. a maximum indication being obtained when the signal and I.F. circuits are brought into correct tune. The discriminator is adjusted for zero indication on a current meter connected between the junction of the resistors and point B on the circuit.

Publication Received

BRANS RADIO TUBE VADE MECUM. Many of our readers are now familiar with this publication. This is the 14th edition and has 464 pages, including 47 pages of wiring diagrams for valve bases. The valves are tabulated in both numerical and alphabetical order, and to avoid thousands of repetitions of types which are really identical, but which have been given special initials by their makers preceding the actual type number. these initials have been omitted. Symbols and abbreviations have been restricted to a very small number. These are given on a bookmarker, which can be laid out next to the tables, thereby simplifying consultation. Written and published by P. H. Brans, at 32s., it is available from Messrs. Bailey Bros. & Swinfen Ltd., London, W.C.1.

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NEW SERIES

Basic Theory For Constructors

No. 2.-POTENTIAL DIVIDERS AND BRIDGE CIRCUITS

By G. Palmer

have now graduated to the stage where we are able to compute the resultant value of resistors connected in series and barallel, and we are able to discover the current flowing in the various branches of a resistive network, the voltage developed across the circuit resistors and the power dissipated in them individually. We have, in fact, sufficient knowledge to solve quite a number of simple problems which are likely to be encountered in resistive networks associated with radio circuits.

Before we attempt to investigate definite examples of this nature, there are first a few more basic laws that we should consider. There is, for instance, the potential divider.

The Potential Divider

In its simplest form, the resistive potential divider is shown in Fig. 1. As will be seen, it consists of two resistors connected in series across a source of voltage (in this case a battery). The

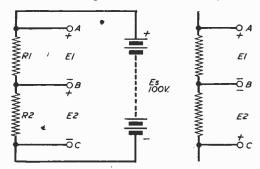


Fig. 1 (Left).—Simple potential-divider circuit. Here the voltages E1 and E2 are series-aiding, i.e., Es=E1+E2.

Fig. 2 (Right).—The voltages E1 and E2 are added in opposition in this circuit. That is, the smaller voltage is taken from the greater voltage.

potential across the network is thus divided, in terms of E1 and E2, in proportion to the values selected for resistors R1 and R2.

It becomes easy to calculate E1 and E2 when it is realised that these potentials are simply those developed across the associated resistors. For example, E1 is the voltage developed across R1 and E2 is the voltage developed across R2. We have given the supply as 100 v. Now if we make R1 and R2 both 500 ohms, we have a total resistance of 1,000 ohms (1 k) across the battery. This means that a current of 100 mA (0.1 A) is flowing through the circuit, thereby causing 50 v. to be developed across both R1 and R2. This is as would be expected, of course, since the sum of E1 and E2 must equal the supply voltage, which is 100 v.

At this stage it is desirable to consider the

polarity of the potentials across the resistors. It will be seen that terminal A is positive with respect to terminal B, while terminal B itself is positive with respect to terminal C. The potentials must be series-aiding otherwise they would not add up to give 100 v.

In Fig. 2. E1 and E2 have opposing potentials, which means that if E1 is equal to E2, then the combined voltage across terminals A-C would be zero. If E1 were greater than E2, then the total voltage would be equal to (E1-E2). The production of voltages in opposition across series-connected resistors need not concern us at the present time, the idea being at this stage to understand how the polarity can affect the magnitude of the total voltage.

In the potential divider in Fig. 1 we discover that resistors of like value give at their junction in relation to either terminal equal voltages, both being exactly half of the supply voltage, with a series-aiding (positive to negative) polarity. In order to save all the trouble of working out the circuit current and then finding the voltage developed across the potential-divider resistors, a simple formula can be used.

Let us suppose that we require to find the voltage E2. Since the voltage is proportional to the resistive value R2, we can say that $E2 = \frac{(R2 \times Es)}{(R1 + R2)}$ where Es is the supply voltage.

If we want to find E1, then $E1 = \frac{(R1 \times Es)}{(R1 + R2)}$.

The resistor at the top of the fraction should represent that across which it is required to find the voltage. If R1 and R2 in Fig. 1 are each 500 ohms, we have $E1 = (500 \times 100)/(500 + 500)$, which gives 50 v.; similarly, $E2 = (500 \times 100)/(500 + 500)$, (500 + 500), again giving 50 v.

If R1 is 20 ohms and R2 80 ohms, then E1= $(20 \times 100)/(20 + 80)$, which works out to 20 v. while E2= $(80 \times 100)/(20 + 80)$, which gives 80 v. Thus (E1 + E2) gixes the applied 100 v.

If we like we can look at it as a fraction in relation to the applied voltage: for example, the

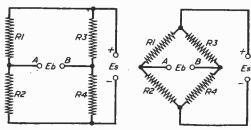


Fig. 3(a) (Left).—A bridge network can be considered as two potential-dividers connected across a common supply voltage.

Fig. 3(b) (Right).—The circuit is redrawn in the accepted manner.

voltage across R2 is R2/(R1 + R2) of the applied voltage, or the voltage across R1 is R1/(R1 + R2) of the applied voltage.

Bridge Network

In Fig. 3(a) we find two potential dividers connected across a common supply voltage Es. From our knowledge to date, we will realise that, provided the ratio of R3 to R4 is exactly the same as the ratio of R1 to R2, the voltage across R1

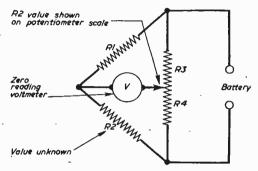


Fig. 4.—An adjustable bridge circuit which can be used for the measurement of a resistor of unknown value.

will be the same as the voltage across R3, and the voltage across R2 will be the same as the voltage across R4.

This means that the potential at terminal A with respect to either side of Es will be exactly the same as the potential at terminal B. The potential between the terminals will therefore be zero, so if a voltmeter or current meter were connected across them it would indicate zero voltage or current.

This is known as the condition of balance, which exists when R1/R2=R3/R4 and is the expression invariably adopted when bridge circuits are discussed. The circuit is redrawn in Fig. 3(b) in conformity with the generally accepted presentation of the network, although it will be noticed that it is exactly the same as the circuit in Fig. 3(a).

When a bridge circuit is off balance a potential will exist across the output terminals (this being represented by Eb in the diagrams), while the polarity of the potential will depend on the relative balance of the two ratios R1/R2 and R3/R4 in relation to the supply polarity.

Let us assume that initially the circuit is in perfect balance and that a centre-zero voltmeter connected across terminals A-B is steady at the zero point. Now if the value of R4 is reduced, the voltage across R4 will also reduce, the bridge will go out of balance and the potential at terminal B with respect to terminal A will be negative. as indicated by the swing of the voltmeter from zero.

If, on the other hand, the value of R4 is increased, then the voltmeter will swing the other side of the zero mark, meaning that terminal B is positive with respect to terminal A. The degree of deflection (that is, potential across the

terminals) will depend on the extent of the unbalance and the voltage Es.

The bridge circuit is often used for the actifate determination of the value of a resistor (capacitor or inductor) by using a common resistor for positions R3 and R4 and a slider on the resistor to select the point of balance. The idea is shown in Fig. 4, in which R3/R4 is really a potentiometer (an adjustable potential divider), and either R1 or R2 is a resistor of accurately known value. The resistor not used then represents the resistor of unknown value.

Let it be supposed that R2 is the unknown value, then the slider is used to alter R3/R4 for zero reading on the voltmeter. At this point the ratio of R3/R4 can be read from a scale associated with the potentiometer pointer. As stated earlier, R is a resistor of accurately known value. Then from the ratio R3/R4 = R1/R2, the unknown resistor (R1) may be found.

(To be continued)

Stereo by Radio

(Continued from page 42)

the two channels together are used to modulate the transmitter in the usual manner, so that a stereo broadcast picked-up by an ordinary receiver would provide a correctly balanced single-channel output.

The signals in the two channels are also subtracted one from the other to provide the directional intelligence, and it is this signal which, in essence, represents the difference between a stereo and a single-channel broadcast. This signal is caused to modulate a sub-carrier, as we have already considered, and the modulated sub-carrier is added at the transmitter to the signals representative of the two channels. The transmitter is thus modulated by the two-channel signals and the sub-carrier, which itself is modulated by the directional signal.

Experiments have proved that the bandwidth of the directional signal can be much curtailed without detracting severely from the quality of the stereo reproduction. The reduced bandwidth also avoids undue reduction in transmitter power, with a consequent avoidance of loss of range of an existing transmitter when it is modified to cater for stereo broadcasts.

A receiver suitable for taking advantage of the stereo feature of the broadcasts would, of course, require a decoder for extracting the directional signal as well as two A.F. channels and loudspeakers.

Book Received

THE RIGHT WAY TO TAPE RECORD. By Laurence Mallory. 128 pp. 24 illustrations. Published by Eliot Right Way Books. Price 7/6.

Amongst the contents of this interesting book are: How the Tape Recorder Works. Microphones, Recording in a Room, Music at Home, Sound Effects, Location Recording, Editing, etc., Points to Consider When Buying, Glossary.

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TRANSMUTTING (TO FUNDAMENTALS OF OPERATING

By O. J. Russell, B.Sc.(Hons.), G3BHJ

THE beginner is often overwhelmed by advice on operating methods, only to hear some of the advisers blithely ignoring their own good advice when on the air. A small sprinkling of common sense is advisable, as many statements have been made and repeated without any examination of the feasibility or otherwise of the recommendations. One such recommendation concerns the CQ call. We all know the fatuity of the long drawn out CQ. Operators on all bands can hear "lids" churning out endless strings of CQ's before signing their call-signs. Thirty, forty and even fifty CQ's may be heard before the operator signs. Often QSB takes the signal below audibility when the call-sign is sent. while some get so hypnotised by sending a long string of CO's that they forget to give a call-sign at all, and send the "K" signal without a clue as to who or what they are. Thus determined to end this menace at the source, many writers have advised the "snappy" CQ, or the celebrated "three times three" CQ.

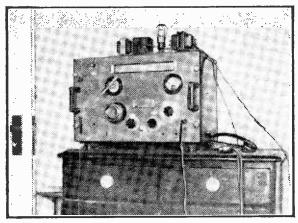
Calling "CQ"

The "three times three" CQ method is to call "CQ" three times and give the call-sign three-times. Thus on CW: "CQ CQ CQ de G3BHJ G3BHJ G3BHJ K." Purists, of course, sign "AR K," but this adds little information, and a straight "K" (meaning "invitation to transmit") is perfectly adequate. Anyone trying the "three times three" procedure will be very lucky if they times three" procedure will be very lucky if they receive a reply to such a CQ call. On the DX bands a reply would generally be a miracle—at any rate for a G operator. For G operators on the DX bands, more contacts will result by

calling DX stations who are calling CQ than vice versa. The writer calls CQ about once for thirty QSO's, and has log pages devoid of any CQ calls at all. However a CQ call, particularly on the L.F. bands is often in order. The "three times three" procedure is not very efficient. Generally the newcomer, having read up extensively on "operating procedure for the beginner," and anxious to do the right thing and avoid overlong CQ calls may persist with this procedure. Having tried one "three times three" call, he tries another and another and another and so on until he gets a contact. By this time he has sent "CQ" some twenty times and his own call twenty times.

"Nine Plus Three" CQ Call
This is not surprising. The object of communication of any kind is to transmit information. The amateur calling "CQ" is trying to inform fellow amateurs that he

wants a contact. Thus, the information is dividedinto "CQ"—the information that a contact is wanted-and secondly his call-sign so that his identity is indicated to any amateur who might wish to contact him. On the basis of Information Theory, the "three times three" CQ call is ridiculously proportioned. Thus "CQ" sent three times represents six morse symbols. However, "de G3BHJ G3BHJ G3BHJ K" represents eighteen morse symbols. Thus, roughly speaking the "three times three" call devotes 24 per cent, of the transmission time to the important information that G3BHJ wants a contact, and 76 per cent, of the time to letting an amateur know that G3BHJ is on the air. If we devote an equal time to the "CQ" and to the call-sign, we need roughly eight or nine "CQ" signals to the triple call-sign ending. Such a CQ call balances the time between the two pieces of information. Thus the "Nine plus three" CQ call is recommended as a logical and time saving method of getting a contact if one has to call CQ. Anyone persisting with the "three plus three" method will discover that he has to make several of such calls before getting a contact, and a "nine plus three" call of nine CQ's and three call-signs will win hands down. Under average conditions, an operator tunes around until he hears a station calling (Q. and listens for the call-sign. With the "three times three " call, he has exactly five seconds out of some twenty seconds to hear that C.W. is being called, that is at a code speed of twelve words per minute. If we are dealing with a brisk 24 w.p.m. sender, some 23 seconds of (Q) are available to an amateur tuning the band to hear that a CQ is being called.



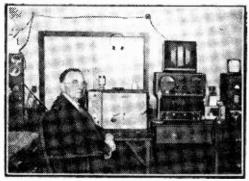
A Short-wave set owned by L. Hayward, of Swanage.

This points up the absurdity of the "three times three" call as a communication measure under average conditions. Moreover the suggested "Nine times three" call of nine CQ's to a thrice sent call-sign only occupies some thirty seconds in all even at a very moderate C.W. sending speed. Thus the "Nine times three" call occupies little time, but docs inform a tuning amateur that a CQ call is in progress some 15 seconds rather than the 5 seconds allocated to the "CQ" by the same code speed "three times three" call.

" Tail-ending"

60

Some contacts start with a CQ call, but this is not invariably so. Thus, stations keeping a regular schedule call each other. Also, a station may "tail end" on a contact just ending. This is common with many operators, though this may very easily become a pernicious habit. Thus every time an operator in QSO signs over to the station he is working. "tail enders" may jump in with a frantic call to the station being worked. This most often occurs when some choice piece of rare DX is being worked. Under such conditions "tail enders" may become a nuisance particularly if they make long drawn out tailend transmissions. The only possible type of



The radio shack of C. H. Jervis, in the village of Rio Seco, just outside Punta Arenas, Chile.

"tail end" is a quick and snappy one. Thus on C.W. a single "de G3BHJ" or on phone "G3BHJ on the frequency" is enough.

Contest Work

The operator will learn, of course, to suit his operating to the conditions of the moment. Thus engaging in a ragchew or "standard type" QSO is perfectly in order for a normal QSO. When a piece of choice DX is eagerly handing out "rubber stamp" contacts to an anxious horde of Dxers, the correct answer is a similar rubber stamp reply. Moreover, phone and C.W. operating have different procedures for different times. Contest operating is a case in point. No operator is going to make any sort of score with sloppy long drawn out operating. It is noteworthy, too, that under normal QSO conditions, names, reports and QTH's are repeated several times. Under contest conditions even if these are sent once the operator gets them, However for contest and for snappy operating generally a fast break-in procedure or at any

rate a rapid "single switch" change-over, is necessary. By making a quick "is that Roger break" one can get a quick "Roger" and be away to the next contest contact without laborious "over to you" procedures. In any case in a phone contact there is no need to say "well back to you then" or "over to you G7XX from G3BHJ. Key please." when "G7XX from G3BHJ over" is sufficient, with four words doing the work of eight. However repetition is not to be despised, as under heavy QRM conditions repetition may be needed to exchange reports. Repetitions should be used only when needed, as when copy is solid it is extremely irritating.

When calling a station, a "three times three" call is almost always sufficient. With good conditions a DX station may be raised by giving its call once followed by your own call three times. Some quiet amusement may be obtained by calling a station with a "once times three" call and enter into QSO while other stations are still calling. Moreover a short call to a DX station may be repeated if it does not reply immediately, so that by quick calls and listening between calls one can avoid QRM should the station reply to another station. It should be noted that when calling a specific station, the "three times three" call . . . thus "ZX7ZX ZX7ZX ZX7ZX de G3BH! G3BHJ G3BHJ K" balances evenly the information content between who is calling and who is being called and is thus an efficient means of calling.

Different Operating Conditions

However, the operator will find contest operating conditions very different from "normal" or semi-normal DX operating. Thus the contest contact is strictly functional, and must be restricted to the minimum necessary for passing the signal report and serial number requisite for the contact. In the CW contest, operating skill is developed to a fine art in order to obtain as many points as possible as accurately and cleanly as possible in the shortest time. For obvious reasons poor CW operators do not participate in CW contests. Many operators are so scared of the machine gun fire exchanges of fast bug key operators that they do not enter such contests. But, participation in such contests is one sure way of developing speed and accuracy in CW operat-One does not have to be a 30 w.p.m. bug key addict to participate. Many such CW contests have plenty of room for the average CW operator to participate without necessarily being a high speed merchant. This applies particularly to DX contests where a G contact might give valuable bonus points to a DX station. Having to slow down (QRS) for a slow CW operator would be preferable to the DX operator rather than losing a bonus multiplier. One should call the station at the speed at which you want a reply. A fumbled call sent faster than your comfortable operating maximum, will cause more confusion than a confident solid call sent at your comfortable working speed. If the C.W. operator is a good operator he will reply to you at the speed you call him-that is he will recognise that the slow call is from a slow operator and will

(Continued on page 63)

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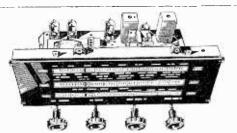
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not confuse you with a fast reply. It should be noted that fast C.W. sending is not necessarily an indication of a good C.W. operator. Much fast C.W. if taken down as sent is gibberish. Whilst there are some extremely good operators who send an effortless stream of fast C.W. that is readable with little strain, there are many others who send a fast, jerky stream of alleged morse that is very tiring to copy. The hallmark of good, fast C.W. is that it is readable without undue strain.

Slower Operators

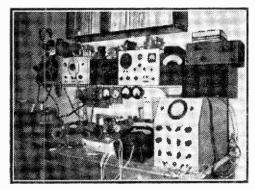
One can easily discover the good and bad C.W. operators by a little listening. The object of operating is to do so well whatever your speed. Thus while listening round in a contest one will find several operators occupying spots in the band. After working one station they will send a single "QRZ?" and work another and another station in a stream. Obviously if such an operator is heard working without trouble a stream of stations, a slow operator would be well advised not to add to the QRM by putting in a call. If you do put in a call a "one by one " or a "one by two" exchange of call-signs is all that is needed. More repetition of call-signs is unnecessary QRM, as the DX contestant is probably through with one station and starting with a another while you are still calling him! Thus if you really are a slow C.W. man, wait till the heat of the contest has died down a little, and search for some contestant who is having to call "QRZ" several times to get replies, or who has to call "CQ TEST" a few times for each reply. He is obviously scoring slowly, and would be very glad for a contest QSO. Thus when you hear "CQCQCQ TEST de VZIA VZIA" drop on the frequency with a snappy "VZIA de G3BHJ G3BHJ K." This should produce the reply "G3BHJ de VZIA UR RST 579 312 579 312 579 312 SK." This, of course, is your signal report plus the contest serial number. That is. this contact is the three hundred and twelfth that the DX station has had in the contest. All you need to send new is "R" to indicate you have received all OK, pass on your report and serial number, and confirm the report and serial the DX station has sent to you. Thus: "R. UR RST 579001 579001 579001. QSL UR RST 579312 579312. VZIA de G3BHJ K." This should receive a "G3BHJ de VZIA QSL UR 579001 579001 BK." Drop in with an "R" to indicate the DX operator has reported your "number to him" correctly, and leave the frequency to him. Thus a maximum of "R CUL GL CTST ES 73 VZIA de G3BHJ SK" should be sent, indicating report and check received correctly. "see you later" (after the contest). "good luck in the contest" and "best wishes." This example will be regarded as extremely long winded by some operators, who, by utilising the "break" symbol, would reduce call-sign and other exchanges to the barest minimum, but it will be appreciated that under contest conditions where QRM may be prevalent, a fast "break procedure may minimise QRM and time.

" Dxpeditions "

We come now to the present day phenomenon

of DX operating, the "Dxpedition." One or more amateurs may make a special trip to some island or other locality and "put it on the air" for a limited period. Generally the spot chosen represents a "new country" for DXCC and other certificate purposes, so that the object of these tactics is to give as many contacts as possible in the time available. Also, if the expedition has been at all publicised, hordes of amateurs are, of course, waiting to call it. This immediately creates the well known "pile-up." Hearing a "pile-up" in progress is often the first indication to many that a rare area is on the air via a Dxpedition. In fact a casual listener may tune

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The electronics lab. of S. Villa of Malta.

across such a pile-up without learning which station is operating. To save time, the DX station may reply to a calling station and go on to work another without indicating its own call-sign; or the stations working the DX station may omit the DX station's call and merely give their own This procedure is very often encountered, although it is against licence regulations. Thus the DX station may give a single "QRZ" and the band in the immediate neighbourhood at once erupts with stations calling the DX. The DX station logs the call-sign of one station calling and may reply as follows: "G3BHJ RST 579 579 S79 BK." The station "worked" replies "R RST 589 589 589 73 BK." This may be followed "R 73 QRZ." and a further station is then immediately worked and so on. In this fashion some hundred "contacts" per hour are handed out. Diligent listening over a period may be necessary to identify the "DX." as a call-sign may be sent only occasionally.

Procedure

In such DX pile-ups, the laborious over repetition of call-signs is very definitely not recommended. It will be appreciated that generally there may be hundreds of stations calling the DX station, so that snappy procedure is necessary. Moreover, any given operator wishing to contact the DX station may have to standby on the frequency waiting for the "QRX" signal before calling the DX station. With contacts being made at a high rate, with average luck one does not have to wait too long for a brief contact with the Dx pedition station.



BRADFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec.: David M. Pratt (G3KEP), "Glenluce," Lyndale
Road, Eldwick, Bingley, Yorkshire.
IN December we had a very successful Social Evening.
Many prizes were presented for the games played, in the
form of chocolates for the ladies, and radio components supplied

from a radio and television manufacturing firm for the men.
This was followed by a very interesting lecture by Arthur Bailey (G3HBN) on Resistor/Capacitor Bridges with demonstrations.

On December 30th, R.S.G.B. and Mullard films were shown at the Annual Film Meeting.

were shown at the Annual Film Meeting.
Forthcoming meetings:
February 10th.—Colour Television. Dr. G. N. Patchett (at the Bradford Institute of Technology).
February 24th.—Transmitter Design and Construction.
D. M. Pratt (G3KEP).
Meeting 10th Line Colour Colour

D. M. Pratt (USKE),
March 10th.—Junk Sale.
March 24th.—Annual General Meeting.
March 24th.—Annual General Meeting.
March 24th.—Annual General Meetings at all Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held at 7.30 p.m. at Cambridge House, 66, Little Horton Lane, Bradford, 5. We welcome to our meetings anyone interested in radio or television.

BURY RADIO SOCIETY
Hoa. Sec.: Mrs. Jean Hodgkins (G3JZP), 24, Beryl Avenue,
Tottington. Nr. Bury, Lanes.
THE above Society meets at 8 p.m. at the George Hotel, Kay
Gardens, Bury, on the second Tuesday of every month.
Forthcoming meetings:
February 10th.—Construction Practice, a talk by Mr. A. Moss
(G8VF)

March 10th .-- Jodrell Bank, a talk by a member of the staff. Since the Society was re-formed three years ago, the membership has almost doubled and covers a large area of East Lancahire. Newcomers are always welcome and copies of the Society's 1959 programme may be obtained from the Hon. Sec.

CRAY VALLEY RADIO CLUB Hon Sec.: W. E. Sutton, G3FWI, 30, Sherwood Park Avenue,

Hon Sec.: W. E. Sutton, G3FWI, 30, Sherwood Park Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.

THE February meeting of the above Radio Club will be held at the Station Hotel, Sidcup, at 8.0 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24th, when Rowley G. Shears, G8KW, will talk about "K.W. Products."

The Annual General Meeting of the club will be held on Tuesday, March 24th, at 8 p.m., also at the Station Hotel, Sidcup, Readers are always welcome visitors to our meetings which are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 8 p.m. at the Station Hotel, Sidcup. Hotel, Sideup.

OVERSTONE AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY (O.A.R.S.)
Hon. Sec.: G. C. George. 75, Broadway, Northampton.
THIS club has been meeting weekly for the last six months.
Subjects which have been discussed include General Radio

Theory, Antennae, etc.

The club also took part in the recent 160 metre CW contest, using the call sign G3KQH (J. R. Hunt—president). It caters mainly for the younger radio-minded enthusiasts in the districts around Northampton.

THE SLADE RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec.: C. N. Smart, 110, Woolmore Road, Erdington,

Birmingham.

THE following meetings will be held during the first quarter:— February 13th.—"The Human Ear," by Mr. C. Naylor

February 13th.—"The Human Ear, by Mr. C. Naylor Strong.
February 27th.—"Round the Local Hams." a talk by Mr. C. H. Young G2AK. member), with colour slides of many Midland amateur radio stations.

March 6th.—Special Mullard Film Show at the Y.M.C.A., Snow Hill, Birmingham, at which will be screened "The Manufacture of Junction Transistors" and other films.

March 13th.—"V.H.F. Business Radio," by Mr. J. F. Moseley, of Messrs. Pye Telecommunications, Ltd., with a sound film.

March 27th.—"The Construction and Use of Test Equipment" by Mr. T. J. Hayward (G3HHD) and Mr. G. Nicholson (G3HKC) (members).

(members).

Club Station Activities .- The Club Station (G3JBN), at The Church House, is available for the use of members for constructional purposes. Instructional morse classes are held use very Wednesday at 7.45 p.m. Slow morse transmissions are radiated on the air each Tuesday evening from Station G3A J

on 1.9 Mc/s, at 8 p.m.

The headquarters are: The Church House, High Street, Erdington, Birmingham, 23, although the activities of the Society may be obtained from the Hon. Sec. Visitors to the meeting. which commence at 7.45 p.m. prompt, and to the Club Station

are cordially welcome.

TEES SIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Hon. Sec.: Allan Layton (G3JMO), 12, Endsleigh Drive,
Acklam, Middlesbrough, Yorks.
THE notice given about the Club Dinner in no small way
led to our having a record attendance of 46 local "hams."

The dinner was very well supported and was a success. Our new catering arrangements proved satisfactory, and it was voted a "good night." Messrs. Viners (Middlesbrough) Ltd., who advertise in the Practical Wireless from time to time, provided the top raffle prize, a "ball and biscuit" type Acos crystal microphone, and this, together with the draw prize of a £1 Premium Bood, were both were by guests, not club members.

microphone, and this, together with the draw prize of a £1 Premium Bond, were both won by guests, not club members!

G3LCZ, Tom, brought down his new shiny Vanguard transmitter (how heavy they are!), a very fine rig indeed, and was the centre of much attention all the evening. He wired the kit himself; it worked fine and was not difficult to do.

One or two pieces of gear and some valves (including two 829B's) changed hands on the swop table. The 829B's vanished before the dinner was served, G3HAE, Les, knew about that; he was looking for them all the evening, but they had gone for good!

G3INP, Bill, who has been very ill, was back with us again, fit and well, but G2CKN, Reg, is still in hospital but much improved.

improved. We have a meeting on February 20th. We hope to arrange a stereo demonstration if we can. All these at our club H.Q., Settlement House, Newport Road, Middlesbrough.

TORBAY AMATEUR PADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: L. H. Webber (G3GDW), 43, Lime Tree Walk, Newton Abbot.

AT the December meeting members warmly applauded the generous gift of a new Model 40 Avometer from the company to help the society in its hospital work. The sum of £5 4s, was raised by a junk sale and members were told of the Ham Hop Club activities. A brief demonstration of tape recording was given by Mr. R. D. Knappe, who lectured on technical aspects of this activity at the January meeting.

WEST LANCS RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: A. Crighton, 77, Myers Road West, Great Crosby,

CLUB now well-established in new headquarters at "Colonsy," Crosby Road South. Waterloo. Liverpool, 22. Weekly meetings: Tuesday, 8.30 p.m. Theory and Morse classes. Alternate weeks. Programme: February 10th. Discussion T.V.f. February 17th: "Practical Alignment" G3F2G. February 24th Morse Procedure, G3GST. New members and visitors always welcome.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
Hon. Sec.: A. Robinson, G3MDW.
AT the monthly meeting of the Halifax and District Amateur
Radio Society on Industry 6th holds A 1 me monthly meeting of the Halifax and District Amateur
Radio Society on January 6th, held at the Sportsman Inn,
Ogden, a very useful lecture was given to a good attendanc
of members by Mr. Duncan Enoch, G3KLZ, whose subject was
Fault Finding Made Easy. The meeting was presided over by
Mr. A. Robinson, G3MDW.
The future programme of the club is February, DV Expeditions

The future programme of the club is February, DX Expeditions by Mr. M. Whittaker, G3IGW.

March Hi-Fi Reproduction by Mr. Falkus of Fane Acoustics Ltd. April, Quiz on Licence Conditions. May, Junk Sale. June, Recorded Lecture on Aerials.

THE BRITISH AMATEUR TELEVISION CLUB

Change of Address
The new address of the Hon. Sec.: D. S. Reid, M.A., is:—

149, Ongar Road, Brentwood, Essex.

BRIGHTON & DISTRICT RADIO CLUB
Hon, Sec.: E. Roberts, 9, Clifton Hill, Brighton, 1.
CLUB meetings are now held on Wednesdays, at 8 p.m. at
the "Eagle Inn," Gloucester Road, Brighton, 1, and future

events include:
February 11th.—"Automatic Telephone Exchange Systems,"

by E. Roberts.

February 18th.—National Field Day Discussion.

February 25th.—" DX Operating," by C. T. Fairchild (G3YY).

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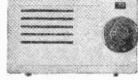
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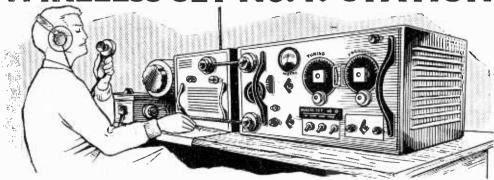
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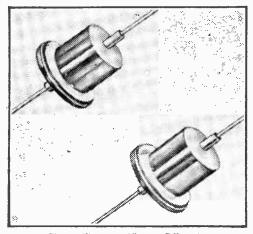
NEWS FROM THE TRADE

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
IN RECEIVERS AND
COMPONENTS

SIMET SILICON RECTI-FIERS

Pollowing the licensing agreement between The Plessey Company Limited and General Instruments Corporation, Plessey of Vicarage Lane, Ilford, Essex, announce the first series of a new range of Simet silicon rectifiers. To be known as the "G" series, they

are hermetically sealed, medium power rectifiers, designed to operate in ambient temperatures between -55°C and + 150°C, and are suitable



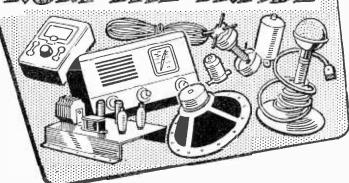
Simet silicon rectifiers "G" series.

for a wide range of applications including magnetic amplifiers and D.C. blocking. The series covers the range 100-1,000 peak inverse volts, 400-750 mA (25°C rating) and up to 250 mA at 150°C. Long life and stable operation at temperatures up to 150°C is claimed.

TRANSISTOR RANGE FOR THE HOME CONSTRUCTOR

INCREASED demand from home constructors and experimenters for economically priced quality transistors is met by the Ediswan-Mazda XA103 (list price 15s.) and XA104 (list price 18s.) transistors, now made available through dealers.

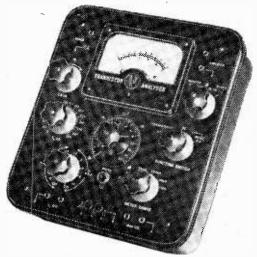
To complete the range the Ediswan-Mazda NB102 and XB104 are now available at the much reduced list price of 10s. NA103 is an LF, amplifier with minimum common base cut-off frequency of 2 Mc/s. Maximum peak or mean collector-to-emitter voltage is 12 v., and minimum small signal current gain is 15. XA104 is a general



purpose R.F. transistor, frequency changer and/or oscillator for long and medium wavebands with minimum common base cut-off frequency of 4 Mc/s. Maximum peak or mean collector-to-emitter voltage is 12 v., and minimum small signal current gain is 18. XB102 and XB104 are general purpose audio transistors with a maximum peak or mean collector-to-emitter voltage of 16 v. The range of small signal current gain is 18.47. The maximum collector dissipation of XB102 at 25°C is 150 mW, at 45°C is 90 mW; of XB104 at 25°C is 120 mW, at 45°C is 60 mW.

TRANSISTOR ANALYSER

A PORTABLE, compact, battery operated transistor tester suitable for testing small and medium n-p-n or p-n-p transistors either in situ or removed from associated apparatus is made by Avo Ltd., 92/96, Vauxhall Bridge Road, S.W.I. The instrument is suitable for taking lb/Ic characteristics with a choice of Vc with the transistor in the grounded emitter configuration. ∞ can be measured at any predetermined



The Avo transistor analyser,

point on the lb/lc characteristic and lco1 is

directly indicated in µA.

Provision has been made for the measurement of transistor noise by comparing peak noise over the approximate range 100 c/s-10 kc/s, with an equivalent input signal calibrated in m_{μ}A from the internal 1.000 c/s oscillator. The instrument can also be used as a multi-range test meter for servicing transistorised apparatus.

FERRITE ISOLATORS

MARCONIS TELÉGRAPH WIRELESS COMPANY are manufacturing a range ferrite isolators as components for use in the main microwave communication frequency bands. As British made components for these frequency bands are not readily obtainable through the normal trade channels in this country it has been decided to make them available to the electronics industry. At present orders can be accepted for the following range:

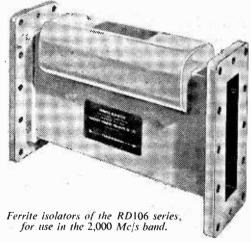
Series RD 103 for the 4,000 Mc/s band.

Series RD 105 for the X-band. Series RD 106 for the 2,000 Mc/s band.

Research is continuing, to develop other special-

ised components difficult to obtain.

Ferrite isolators are "one way streets" in microwave transmission lines, permitting propagation of energy in one direction, and absorbing energy reflected at any mismatch travelling in the opposite direction. The isolators in the Marconi series employ resonance absorption of spinning



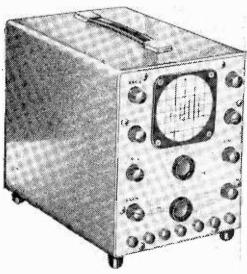
electrons which precess in a static magnetic field. Two notable features of the isolators are the very good wide-band match effected with adjoining transmission lines and their ability to operate in a wide temperature range without significant deterioration in performance.

The field of application of these components extends from microwave test benches to microwave multichannel and colour television links. They are particularly valuable in test equipment to isolate reflecting loads from sensitive oscillators, the frequency of which would be affected by such reflections. By using these new isolators the performance of microwave links can be greatly improved to carry a substantially increased number of channels or colour television channels.

The components are manufactured to fine limits. For example, the tolerance of the standing wave ratio is 1.05 to 1.02 or better. This ensures that the equipment in which the components will be used will conform to C.C.I.R. recommendations.

THE TRESCOSCOPE

HIS is a general purpose, high performance oscilloscope designed around a first-grade 3in. cathode ray tube type 3AFP1. It is suitable for use by radio and television service engineers. amateur experimenters, and has many applications in industry.



The Trescoscope.

It is housed in a well-proportioned cabinet which is fitted with a carrying handle and feet. and is attractively finished in a scratch resisting grey hammer cellulose. The tube face is pro-tected by a transparent perspex graticule ruled horizontally and vertically to provide a convenient reference for the measurement of trace amplitude. All input terminals are keyed into the front panel to prevent over-turning and subsequent loosening. They are fitted with captive insulated heads which cannot be removed and lost. The cabinet and all metalwork is of steel. the main chassis and C.R.T. bulkhead being suitably treated to prevent corrosion and rust.

The instrument utilises BVA valves, and it is manufactured by The Range Electronics Co., Cormorant Works, Lett Road, E.15.

A 12v, VALVE-TRANSISTOR CAR RADIO

REGARDING the above article which appeared in the January issue, will readers please note that the continuation line was inadvertently inserted. The article was concluded in that issue.



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by G. A. BRIGGS assisted by

R. E. Cooke, B.Sc., (Eng.) PRICE 19/6 (20/9 post)

Letter from Chicago

I found the 5th Edition of Loudspeakers so interesting I could not put it down, and read it cover to cover on the day I received it. it cover to cover on the day I received it. especially enjoyed chapter one and the details especiarry enjoyed chapter one and the details of your early trials in manufacturing the material is very interesting. All the material is very interesting the hook.

An me material is very interesting, the book style is clear and appealing, and the book on the other hand, one reading does not extract all the information contained in it. I find that I refer to your books again and again that I refer to your books again and it is they often contain a character treatment. again; they often contain a clearer treatment on acoustical problems than can be found in the standard reference texts.

17th November, 1958 R.F.F.

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and leads. Complete in solid leather carrying case, 6 in. x Sin. x 2in. A gift at 25/- post free.

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Programme Pointers OUR CRITIC, MAURICE REEVE, REVIEWS SOME RECENT PROGRAMMES

THOMAS DEKKER'S The Shoemaker's Holiday—the first in a series of British Drama 1600-1642—gave a delightful picture of bygone days when smells and plagues were rife and street criers part of the daily scene. The denizens of Holborn and Fleet Street could well nigh shake hands across the road from their top windows whilst those who chafed under such restrictions might quit on the Mayflower, shortly to set sail. Sir Donald Wolfit headed a long cast of citizens and scallywags and the play

moved with speed and gusto.

If not wholly changed, another scene which has at least been radically altered is that which forms the setting for Dame Ethel Smyth's charming and nostalgic opera, The Boatswain's Mate. Set to a story by W. W. Jacobs, it was given a repeat broadcast. The piece is set outside and in The Beehive, a country inn, at the opening of this century. Stanford Robinson and the Northern Orchestra and singers, with Alexander Young, Dennis Bowen, Margaret Ritchie, Mildred Watson and Scott Joynt, gave a spirited and sparkling performance—adjectival similes appropriate to The Beehive!

The BBC have often been very kind to a composer, a work or a performer, without which patronage a thin time might have ensued. For some time now the lucky one has been the Scandinavian composer, Carl' Nielsen, and very lucky he is. His symphonies bear the not unsuitable titles of the "indisguishable," etc. I prefer to know them as "the indigestible," the incomprehensible" or "the incredible." May Mr. Nielsen's period of favour soon be over!

Now we come to the main work in the programme! This is a favourite remark of concert programme announcers. How embarrassing it must be for modern composers with a work of some magnitude that happens to lie beside one of

the hoary old classics!

Plays

The Importance of Being Earnest is one of a small band of works which age cannot wither nor custom stale its infinite variety. Rising above either "whodunit" sensation or sticky, cloying passion, it enables us to lean back and relish its pearls of wit and its masterly craftsmanship. "World Theatre" did it very well indeed, with Robert Eddison as John Worthing, Peter Cook as Algernon, Joan Matheson as Lady Bracknell, Beryl Calder as Cecily. Monica Grey as Gwendoline and James Thomason as Canon Chasuble in the principal parts. Produced by Martyn C. Webster, it rolled along to everyone's delight and joy.

Good Entertainment

A newpaper story is always good entertainment. The rushing hither and thither, the great machines at work and the frantic grabs for scoops, have a fascination all their own. It only wants a beautiful secretary—blonde, maybe, but not dumb—and the picture is complete. The Fielding Story was a very good one. Edward Chapman as the paper owner, showed, with terrifying realism, how far some papers will go to get a sensational front page. Whilst James McKechnie, as his editor, fought for a greater degree of decency and respect for a woman's rights.

Mendelssohn

Little is known of Mendelssohn's Midsummer Night's Dream music—that marvellous outpouring of a lad of seventeen, resumed and completed fifteen years later as though no break had occurred—than what is heard in the concert hall namely the overture and the scherzo. Not even the peerless Wedding March is heard outside a church. So the BBC Northern Orchestra, in the Music to Remember series, under Stanford Robinson, and with the Northern singers, did a service in giving the whole of this wonderful music. Robert Irwin linked the numbers with a helpful and well composed narrative. The Dream without Mendelssohn is surely like Dickens without Phiz or lamb without mint sauce: not quite complete!

without mint sauce: not quite complete!

Speaking personally, I would like to see a second series of *The Verdict of the Court* started. I thought that those now concluded were both excellent entertainment and important instruction in the mind and working of the course of justice. They gave us the "whodunit" of real life, which must always be superior to the manufactured article. Congratulations to scriptwriter Jenifer Wayne, narrator James McKechnie, producer Joe

Burroughs and the cast.

Noah, by the French playwright André Obey, featured Sir Ralph Richardson. Needless to say, it was the story of the flood in modern language. I was surprised to read in the Radio Times that Sir Ralph wanted particularly to play the part. Not that the piece was without interest or not worth doing, far from it. But to me Sir Ralph was lost in it: wasted. The sounds of hammering at the commencement, when the ark is under construction, sounded more like a child knocking up a toy with some odd pieces of wood. Percy Edwards must have had a grand time imitating all the birds and animals in creation.

iscussio

The Editor does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed by his correspondents.

Whilst we are always pleased to assist readers with their technical difficulties, we regret that we are unable to supply diagrams or provide instructions for modifying

to supply anagrants or produce instructions for monthing commercial or surplus equipment. We cannot supply alternative details for receivers described in these pages. WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO ANSWER QUERIES OVER THE TELEPHONE. If a postal reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed with the council from page ill of Cover.

the coupon from page iii of cover.

Live Chassis Circuits

SIR.—Very frequently on looking through articles on live-chassis circuits one sees the warning to connect the chassis itself to the neutral side of the mains to minimise the risk of shock to the operator or experimenter. However, it seems to me that one very important point is never mentioned in these same articles-namely. that the pin on a mains socket labelled N is only too often carrying 240 volts! Having had this brought to my notice the hard way. I checked several installations and found a very high per-

centage wrongly wired. And this applied even to a large scientific department installed, at least in theory, by competent electricians.

Could take, this therefore, to chance. especially 4 the warn experimenter that it is not safe to

assume that the neutral pin on his house circuit is not carrying high voltages. Obviously. the experienced Ham has checked all his wiring. but he is also the very man who has the knowledge not to take chances with the mains. The beginner can easily check his wall socket by using a neon screwdriver, a tool that is a good investment for the few shillings it costs.-W. SINCLAIR (Edinburgh).

Electronic Organ

SIR,—I feel sure that the last item in Mr. R. H. Cowtan's letter in PRACTICAL WIRELESS, December issue, must have made many organ fans think. No doubt all of us at some time have had microphones in our American organs or harmoniums. Many, too, will have meddled with the electronic organ keyboard, advanced in design or otherwise, but the words "So later I made every reed one plate of a condenser microphone, etc., etc.," must be of especial interest to many of us. Mr. Cowtan has wet our lips. I wonder if he or your organ enthusiasts would give us an this application.—O. PENNOCK article on (Hartlepool).

Long-wave Reception

SIR.—I have been following the correspondence on long-wave reception in PRACTICAL WIRELESS with great interest. May I, a mere woman reader, add a word too?

Much of the enjoyment I obtain from listening-

in, is derived from long-wave programmes and particularly from France I (Inter.) with its excellent fare.

Long may our radio manufacturers continue to supply us with sets incorporating long waves.— MISS M. MARSHALL (London, N.W.3).

"Beginner's Constructional Course"

SIR.—In answer to Mr. M. J. Redman's letter (December 1958) Laborated Occember, 1958). I also made the three-valve receiver described in the "Beginner's Constructional Course." I am 14½ years old and had

success with each stage built.

I am looking forward to the multi-range meter to be described, as mentioned in October PRACTICAL WIRELESS.

I have been having WIRELESS PRACTICAL. for a year now and find it most informa-

tive.—J. STEVENSON (Birmingham).

Stereo Reproduction

IR.—I have recently written two letters for the SIR.—I have recently written the columns and am told Open to Discussion columns and am told there are three of all good things, so may I crave space to reply to G. R. (S.W.3). January issue.

First, let me advise him to read, or re-read, the article by A. M. St. Clair in the July number of PRACTICAL WIRELESS and also your editorial in that number. I, too, fancy this subject is somewhat exaggerated. In modern jargon, there is the matter of "creating markets" as, for instance. persuading girls to daub their mouths with a mass of fat and colour. Stereophonic sound will depend a very great deal on the size, shape and acoustics of your room while the listener must sit at the apex of an equilateral triangle.

I had a long experience in the research department of one of the largest radio manufacturers and between the two wars we investigated many things, including stereophonic sound, for the subject is by no means new. It takes all sorts to make a world and this is how I see it after a life experience in the reproduction of sound.

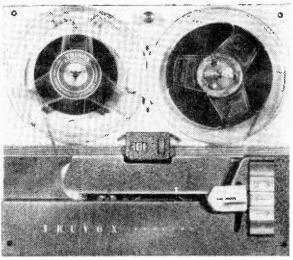
Let us suppose we have an orchestra on a platform twenty feet wide, the listener sits at the apex of his triangle, twenty feet in front. His right ear will hear first the instruments on the extreme right and gradually on, across to the left-hand side, the volume becoming very slightly less as he proceeds to the left, but the journey

(Continued on page 75)

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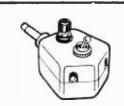
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CP.3 F. This Coil Pack is for use with a 500pF tuning condenser and covers the standard long, medium and short wavebands with the addition of the band 50-160 metres. This covers the trawler band, aeronautical and the 80 and 160 metre amateur bands. 49'-, plus 19,7 P.T., total 68/7.

CP.3F/G. As CP.3/F but with Gram, position. 57,-, plus 22/9 P.T., total 79 9. CP.4/L and CP.4 M. These compact 4-station Coil Packs are available for either 1 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 connec-

tions 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

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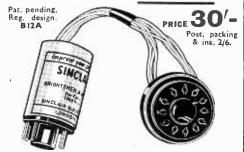
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across is very quick indeed and the difference in volume very slight, so, vice versa, with the left ear. Now, we have both ears working and the music coming right, left and centre to both ears at great velocity and I will defy the average person to say what he is hearing, particularly, in the right or left ear, except the whole music. That

is, of course, in practice not theory.

Instead of the listener, let us have a microphone at the right-hand side of the platform and another at the left, each feeding a separate circuit to the two halves of a 45-45 recorder stylus and it is my case that the recorder is in the same position entirely as was the listener's ears. There may be the slightest emphasis on the right and left but at any rate the speed of the vibrating reproducing needle, sapphire or diamond, is so great that it become negligible, except only when a single moving object is taken first from right to left, or reverse, when it will be heard slightly sooner on one side, a technique in some films.

And now to return to G.R. (S.W.3), there are

of simulating ways stereophonic sound. One way is to have a centre-tapped coil in an electro-magnetic pick-up, the centre is earthed and the ends go to the two channels of the amplifier, or to correct phase. two coils, the ends to earth and beginnings to the amplifier. There are other ways of dealing with crystal and m/c pick-ups. Then. you may split up your push-pull output by using a centre-tapped output transformer and feeding two speakers, and a very simple way is to feed radio or gram into a high-slope pentode which in turn feeds the two grids of

two output valves each having its own output transformer. But let me repeat, this is simulated, not true stereophonic sound, but in the average room the average listener will never know the

difference.

Finally, let us forget all the foregoing, and for the average room let us have the best equipment we can manage, sit where we like and enjoy our single source of sound, and never let us confuse stereophonic with stereoscopic.—R. H. COWTAN (Thetford).

Ex-Service Equipment

SIR.—I agree wholeheartedly with H. T. R.'s suggestion in the January issue that data on ex-government apparatus should be compiled. You have, of course, given lists of specific items, e.g., valves and resistors, but a composite list would be very welcome.—W. H. R. (Watford).

Correspondents Wanted

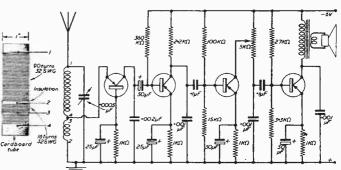
SIR.—I am interested in radio and electronics in general and I would be very pleased if I could obtain a pen-friend in England aged about 15 to 18. I would prefer someone living in London itself or to the south of London.—D. K. Humpton, 494. Avonside Drive. Avonside, Christchurch. N.E.2. New Zealand.

Auto-changer Cut-out

SIR,—With reference to Mr. R. Shatwell's design for the "Staar" Auto-changer cutout. Mr. Shatwell is quite correct in his assumption that a switch is fitted to some models. In fact a micro-switch for the changer can be obtained for the modest sum of 4s. 6d. from the Technical Trading Co., Portsmouth, who advertise in this journal.—J. MITCHELL (Heathfield).

Transistor Receiver

SIR.—I have built quite a few transistor sets. one of my most successful ones is shown in the diagram below. It gives very good results, even though reception in this area is pretty poor. The transistors I used were a Brimar TS3 for a detector, two "red spot" transistors for the A.F. stages and a Mullard OC71 for the output stage. The volume is amazing.—J. BOWYER-LOWE (Southwich, Essex).



Circuit diagram of the transistor receiver.

BBC Stereo Sound

SIR.—I have had good results from the BBC's stereophonic sound tests, but on the most recent one I used headphones (right hand phone receiving TV sound. left-hand phone receiving Network Three) and the results were even better!

I think this was because: (1) the acoustics of the room can have no effect on the headphones and (2) the sound is brought direct to each ear.— G. Davies (Felixstowe).

Interference from TV Receivers

SIR.—Now that every "Idiots' Delight" television set which is installed completely spoils radio reception in its vicinity, and with the G.P.O. receiving £4 licence fee for a television as against £1 a year for a radio, it is my personal opinion that everything is being done to force radio listeners to turn to television.

It is the duty of the G.P.O. to check interference with reception. but what happens when a television set next door blots out a neighbour's radio? One unfriendly call from an engineer and then silence in the majority of cases. The G.P.O. doesn't care: the offending neighbour (who may or may not have a licence at the time) doesn't care. I have just had my radio reception

completely destroyed by a piercing TV whistle from a set placed to back up to mine through the wall, but I seem to be the offender by daring to complain! It is the old story of the strongest getting their own way, with the makers of TV sets having bludgeoned the authorities into allowing low standards of construction, with widespread radio interference.—F. J. LORD (Stamford).

" Arrangements"

SIR.—As a consistent reader of "On Your Wavelength" for many years, I find Thermion's pages again and again re-echo my own sentiments.

In some previous issues of PRACTICAL WIRELESS he has dealt with the question of "arrangements." and at first I agreed with him 100 per cent. Composers tunes are distorted, almost out of all recognition. Most of the music so tampered with has been with us some time, and we look forward to hearing it from time to time like an old and trusted friend, and usually when it has been arranged or tampered with, our old friend turns out to have gone berserk.—R. MANCHESIER (Bucks).

"Servicing Without Instruments"

SIR.—Although Gordon Cole's article (Servicing Without Instruments) was in factual detail substantially correct. I cannot but help feeling uneasy that beginners should be taught such methods prior to using the more orthodox servicing techniques.

A suitable test-meter can be bought for about thirty shillings, or the would-be experimenter can make one of those which are periodically described in your pages for much less. With such a meter a much more comprehensive check can be made upon a receiver, and I feel sure that the genuinely interested novice would be far better off by finding his way about his set with the aid of a meter, than by relying on the oft-doubtful indications of odd sparks, hums, clicks, etc, After all, if the experimenter is genuine, then he will get himself a test-meter sooner or later, and the sooner the better. If he is merely one of those "I know how to do this, its kids stuff" people, then I strongly recommend that his talents will be better employed in repainting the kitchen.

I must correct Mr. Cole on one point though, experienced constructor or novice, professional or amateur, one must check for overheating before switching on a faulty receiver.—P. R. WILLIAMS (East Molesey).

Comments on Letter "Servicing Without Instruments"

THE author states:—"I have read with interest the comments of P. R. Williams, and I should like to emphasise that my article "Servicing Without Instruments" was in no way meant to disparage the use of conventional servicing techniques.

Indeed, I agree fully with Mr. Williams that the serious experimenter should make all effort to acquire a suitable testmeter as early as possible in his career, but I would qualify this by saying that considered attention should be given to this purchase, as the employment of an instrument of low sensitivity may bewilder rather than assist the beginner, and a meter in the price range intimated by Mr. Williams may well be of that kind.

However, as revealed by the correspondence which is directed to our query department, there are legions of beginners and experimenters not possessing an instrument of this kind and yet whose interest in radio is far in advance of that required to incite "repainting the kitchen."

It was towards these interests that the article was primarily directed. Having gleaned a fair understanding of circuits from being a reader of PRACTICAL WIRELESS, a normally non-practising enthusiast may well be successful in the repair of his own receiver by following the lines given in the article. The enthusiast may then decide to construct or purchase an instrument to aid him in more detailed work as his practical interest heightens.

Nevertheless, it is truly surprising just how much information on a faulty set can be obtained without the help of instruments if the "clicks" and "sparks" are interpreted with care.

In conclusion, I would say that it is perfectly safe to check for slight overheating of components with a receiver actually switched on. This can save time without being dangerous. A receiver possessing a serious short, giving rise to an excessive and rapid rise in component temperature, would, in any case, hardly lend itself to this test, as either the component would burn out almost immediately, thereby revealing the approximate location of the trouble, or the fuse, if fitted, would blow, indicating the definite need for checking for a short."

Novice Licence

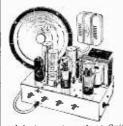
SIR.—I am baffled by the repeated demands in "Open to Discussion" for the institution of a Novice Licence. Have the would-be "novices" never heard of the Amateur Sound Licence issued by the P.M.G. which costs £2 annually, and is granted after satisfying the authorities that one possesses elementary radio knowledge and can send and receive morse at 12 words per minute?

I am left with one conclusion: the aspirants to a Novice Licence are looking for an easier road to their objective than that which exists at present. They simply cannot be bothered to acquire the elementary principles necessary for the interest of an exthedex licence.

acquire the elementary principles necessary for the issue of an orthodox licence.

If some of the writers in "Open to Discussion" who have pleaded for a Novice Licence during the last six or seven years had spent as much time reading basic theory as they have obviously spent in thinking up some of the far-fetched, naïve and impracticable ideas as grounds for such a licence, then they would by now be experienced transmitting operators.

I shall be pleased to assist, in any way I can, anyone who genuinely would like to obtain an Amateur Sound Licence. There are only two requirements: enthusiasm and average intelligence.—J. D. PEARSON, G3KOC (Barrow-on-Humber).



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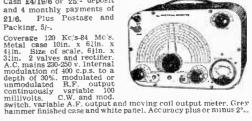
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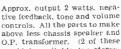




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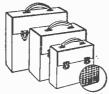
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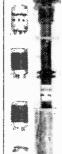
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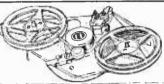
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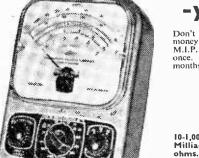
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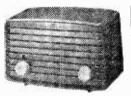
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A.C. Dallu-Pass 3	P W 99*
Four-valve : 2/6 each	
A.C. Fury Four (SG, SG,	
D, Pen)	PW20*
A.C. Hall - Mark (HF,	
Pen, D, Push Pull)	PW45*

SUPERHETS

Battery Sets : F. J. Camn		
Superhet	 	PW52*

	Operate			
" Coro	net " A	.C.4		PW100*
AC/DO	" Corc	net " F	our	PW101*

No. of Bineprint

SHORT-WAVE SETS

Battery Operated	
One-valve: 2/6 each	
Simple S.W. One-valver	PWSS

ompie b. W	. One-va	11461	1 44.00 .
Two-valve:	2/6 each		
Midget Sho	rt-wave '	Two	
(D, Pen)	***		PW38A*

Three-va				
Experim	enter's	Sh	ort-	
wave	Three	(SG,	D,	B
Pow)	2000	222	200	PW30A

The Prefe	ect 3 (D, nd Trans	2 LF	PW63*

The Ba	nd-spre	ead S.	W.	
Three	(HF,	Pen,	D	
(Pen),	Pen)			PW68*

MISCELLANEOUS

2/6 each S.W. Conve	rter-Ada	pter		
(1 valve)			PW	48A
The P.W. 3-gram			eets),	8/-
The PW	Monoph	onic		

Electronic Organ (2 sheets), 8 -**TELEVISION**

The	" Argu	s '' (6in.	C.R.	Tube)	3/-
The	" Sim	plex ''			3/6*
The	P.T. B	and III	Conv	erter	1/6*

All the following blueprints, as well as the PRACTICAL WIRELESS numbers below 94, are pre-user designs, kept in circulation for those amateurs who wish to utilise old components which they may have in their spares box. The majority of the components for these receivers are no longer stocked by retailers.

AMATEUR WIRELESS AND WIRELESS MAGAZINE

STRAIGHT SETS

One-valve	Battery O	perated	l
B.B.C. valver		One-	AW387*

Mains Operated Two-valve : 2/6 each

MO-VAIVE . Z			
Consoelectric	Two	(D.	
Pen), A.C.			AW403

SPECIAL NOTE

THESE blueprints are drawn full The issues containing size. descriptions of these sets are now out of print, but an asterisk denotes that constructional details are available, free with the blueprint.

The index letters which precede the Blueprint Number indicate the periodical in which the description appears. Thus P.W. refers to PRACTICAL WIRELESS, A.W. to Amateur Wireless. W.M. to Wireless Magazine.

Send (preferably) a postal order to cover the cost of the Blueprint (stamps over 6d. unacceptable) to PRACTICAL WIRELESS, Blueprint Dept., George Newnes, Ltd., Tower House, Southampton Street, Strand. W.C.2.

> No. of Blueprint

SHORT-WAVE SETS

Battery O	perated .
One-valve: 2/6 eac	ch .
S.W. One-valver	for
American	AW429*

Two-valve: 2/6 eac		
Ultra-short Battery		
(SG, det Pen)	• • •	WM402*

Four-valve:	3/6 eacl	1	
A.W. Short W			
beater (HF,	Pen, D	RC.	
Trans)			AW436*

Standard F	our-va	lver	
Short-waver	(SG,	D,	
LF, P)			WM1383*

Mains Operated Four-valve: 3/6 Standard Four-valve A.C. Short-waver (SG, D,

... WM391*

RC, Trans) ...

MISCELLANEOUS

Enthusiast's Power Amplifier (10 Watts) (3/6) WM387*

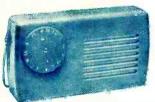
Listener's 5-watt A.C. Amplifier (3/6) ... WM392*

De Luxe Concert A.C. Electrogram (2/6) ... WM403*

This coupon is available until Mar. 6th 1959, and must accompany all Queries sent in accord with the notice on our "Open to Discussion" page. PRACTICAL WIRELESS, MAR. 1959.

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