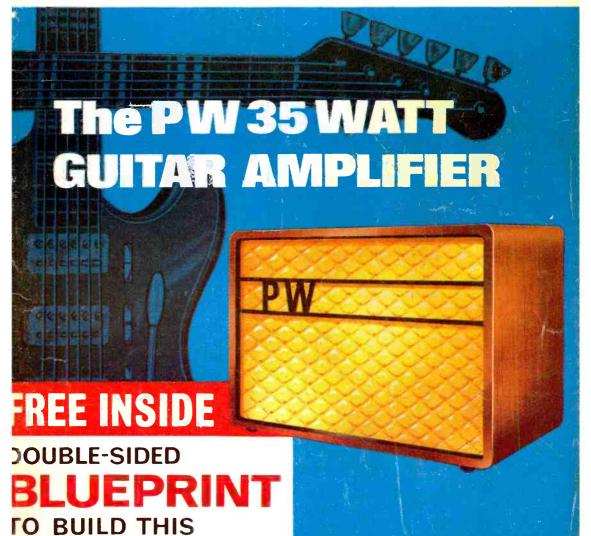
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UF/H10	IO-ELEMENT, HEAD ONLY with CLAMP	12.5	26.0	47/-
UF/HI2	12-ELEMENT, HEAD ONLY with CLAMP	13.5	28.0	51/-
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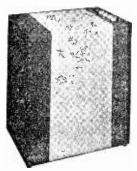
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Eminently suitable for bass, lead or rhythm guitar and all other musical instruments

- \* Incorporating two 12in, heavy duty 25-wat; high flux (17,000 lines) loudspeakers with 2in, diameter speech coils. Designed for efficiently handling full output of amplifier 2in, diameter speech coils. Des at frequencies down to 25 c.p.s.
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R.S.C. JUNIOR GUITAR AMPLIFIER 5-watt high quality output. Separate bass and treble "cut" and "boost" controls. Sensitivity 15 m.v. Two high impedance inputs. 10in. loudspeaker. Handsome strongly made cabinet size 14 x 14 x 7in. approx.) finished in complimentary shades of Rexine/Tygan. 200-250 A.C. mains.

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High-fidelity push-pull output. Soparate bass and treble "cut" and "boost" controls. Twin separately controlled inputs so that two instruments or "mike" and pick ups can be used at the same time. Loudspeaker is a heavy duty high flux 121n. 20 watt model with cast chassis. Chassis is well made and finished as Junion Model. Size approx. 18 x 18 x 8 in. High-fidelity push-pull out-

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A highly efficient unit incorporating a massive 15in, high flux loud-speaker specially constructed to withstand heaviest load conditions. Rating 25 watts. Individual bass and treble controls give ample "boost" and "cut". Two high impedance lack socket inputs are separately controlled. All controls are conveniently positioned in a recess on top of the cabinet. Cabinet is of substantial construction and attractively finished in two contrasting tones of Rexine and Vynair. Size approx. 24 x 21 x 13in. Operation from 200-250 v. 50 c.p.s. A.C. mains.

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Brand New Complete \$7.19.9 Carr.
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HEAVY DUTY LOUDSPEAKERS IN SUBSTANTIAL REXINE COVERED CARINETS. Type BGI. Suitable for Bass Guitar. Speaker Unit 15in. High Flux, 15 ohms, 30 watts. Cabinet size approx. 24 x 21 x 13in Only 19 kms. Or Deposit 43/- and 12 monthly payments of 34/-. Type BGJ2. Suitable Bass and Lead Guitar. Two 12in. high flux 15 ohm 25 watt speakers, one with aluminium speech coil and dual cone to provide smooth frequency response from 25 to 17,000 c.p.s. Cabinet size approx. 30 x 21 x 14in. Covered in two contrasting tones of grey Vynair and Rexine. Rating 50 watts. Only 29 gns. or Deposit £3/7,6 and 12 monthly payments of 50/s.

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CABINETS. Heavy blockboard construction. Very attractive two tone covering
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HIGH FIDELITY AMPLIFIER A10
A highly sensitive Push-Pull high output unit with self-contained Pre-amp. Tone Control Stages. Certified performance green compare equally with most expensive amplifiers available. Hum level 70 dB down. Frequency response ±3 dB 30-30,000 c/s. A specially designed section-ally wound ultra linear output transformer is used with 807 output valves. A1 components are chosen for reliability. Six valves are used EF86, EF86, ECC83, 807, 6734. Separate Bass and Treble Controls are provided. Minimum input required for full output is only 12 millivolts so that ANNEALS OF MICROPHONISTS. STRING 18 designed for LULUS. SCHOOLS, TOOLS TOOLS

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SUPERHET FEEDER UNIT. Design of a high quality Radio Tuner (specially suitable for use with our Amplifiers). Delayed A.V./C. Controls are Tuning. W/Ch. and Vol. Only 250 v. 15 ma. H.T. and L.T. of 6.3 v. 1 amp. required from amplifier. Size approx. 9 x 6 x 7ln. high. Simple alignment procedure. Point-to-Point wiring diagrams, instructions and priced parts list with illustrations. 2/6. Total building cost £4.15.0. S.A.E. for leaflet.

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QU'ALITY AMPLIFIER. Suitable for any record playing unit and most microphones. Negative feed-back 12 dB. Separate
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In walnut veneered
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A highly-cansitive 4-valve quality amplifier for the home, small club, etc. Only 50 millivoits input 1s required for full output so that it is suitable footition to all other flowers and the properties of the second of the flowers of th

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R.S.C. JUNIOR III-FI REPRODUCER,
The very latest Goodman Axiette 8 High
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Reflex cabinet size 12 x 18 x 10in. Acoustically lined and ported and finished in
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Ideal for Stereo.

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Type BMI. An all-dry battery
eliminator. Size 5; x 4; x 2in.
approx. Completely replaces
battery supplying 1.4 v. and
90 v. where A.C. mains 200-250
v. 50 c/s is available. Suitable
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Type BM1. Size 8 x 51 x 21 in. Supplies 120 v. 90 v. and 60 v. 40 mA and 1 v 0. a. to 1 ampully smoothed. Thereby combletely replacing both combletels replacing both II.1, butterles and L.T. 2 v. accumulators when competed to A.C. mains supply 200500 v. 50 cfc. St TTABLE POR ALL BATTERY RECEIVERS normally using 2 v. accumulators. Complete kt of parts with diagrams and instructions. 49/9, or ready for use, 59/6.

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HIGH FIDELITY 12-14 WATT AMPLIFIER TYPE A11

PUSH-PULL ULTRA LINEAR OUTPUT 'BUILT-IN' TONE CONTROL PRE-AMP STAGES

CONTROL PRE-AMP STAGES

Two input sockets with associated controls allow mixing of "mike" and gram., as in Alo High sensitivity. Includes 5 valves, ECC83, ELS4, ELS4, EZ81, High Quality sectionally wound output transformer specially described by the control of the control of

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Kit can be supplied assembled and ready to use for 59/6 extra.

A complete set of parts for the construction of a stereo-phonic amplifier giving 5 watts high quality output on each channel (total 10 watts). Sensitivity is 50 millivolts. Sultable for all crystal stereo heads. Ganged Bass and Treble Control kive equal variation of 'jitt and 'cut'. Provision is made for use as the control of the cont

ONLY 3 PAIRS OF SOLDERED JOINTS



R.S.C. GRAM. AMPLIFIER KIT. R.S.C. GRAM. AMPLIFIER KIT. 3 watts output. Negative feed back. Control Vol.. Tone and Switch. Mains operation 200-250 v. A.C. Fully isolated chassis, Circuit, etc., supplied. Only 39/9. Carr. 3/9. III-FI CRYSTAL PICK-UP HEADS. (Cartridges.) Acos Standard replacement for Garrard. B.S.R. and Collaro. 16/9. Acos Stereo-Monaural. 29/9. Ronette Stereo-Monaural 3/9.6. B.S.R. Stereo 39/9. BR ADMATIC RECORDING HEADS. High Impedance Record/Playback 22/s. Low Impedance Erase, 12/6.

MARRIOTT RECORDING HEADS, High Impedance. Record/Playback 15/--Low Impedance. Frase. 10/--PICK-UP ARMS. Complete and with latest Acos/hi-fiturnover Cartridge 29/11.

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variable
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39/9 Carr.
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6/12v. Lamp. 27/9 Less meter.

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350-0-350v. 150mA, 6.3v. 4a, 0-5-6.3v. 3a 29/9 FV LLY SHROUTDED UPRIGHT 250-0-250v. 60mA, 6.3v. 2a, 0-5-6.3v. 2a, Midget type 2) x 3 x 3in. 17/11 250-0-250v. 100mA, 6.3v. 4a, 0-5-6.3v. 3a 27/9 300-0-300v. 100mA, 6.3v. 4a, 5v. 3a 27/11 300-300v. 130mA, 6.3v. 4a, C.T. 6.3v. 1a. for Mullard Amplifier ... 33/9 350-0-350v. 100mA, 6.3v. 4a, 0-5-6.3v. 3a 27/11 350-0-350v. 100mA, 6.3v. 4a, 0-5-6.3v. 3a ... 35/9

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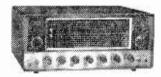
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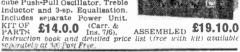
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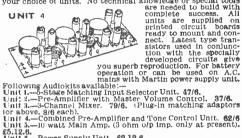
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Super speed key, 7 speed adjustments, 10 WPM to as high as desired weight scale for repro-

ducible settings Precision tooled anti-rust nickel plated brass and stainless steel operating parts. Size 6% x 3 x 2in. Brand new. £4.12.6. Post paid.

6 amp 800V. P.I.V. 500mA

400V, P.I.V. 500mA 70V. P.I.V.

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PLUGS AND SOCKETS
Painton 15-pin in-line printed circuit connectors. 7/6 pair.
Large quantities available.
Uniters. 4 pin. 2/6 pr. 8 pin. 3/6

Laire quantities available.
Uniters. 4 pin, 2/6 pr; 8 pin 3/6
pr; 12 pin 4/- pr; 18 pin 3/6
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pr; 12 pin 1/6 pr; 8 pin 4/pr; 12 pin 5/6 pr; 18 pin 7/6
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amp OA202 miniature silicon rectifiers 1/- each.
Discounts for quantities.
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SILICON RECTIFIERS SCR. 400V. P.I.V. 4.7 amp 200V. P.I.V.



CLEAR PLASTIC PANEL **METERS** First grade

quality, Moving Coil panel ex-stock.

meters. available Meters, available carson.

S.A.E. for illustrated leaflet.

Discounts for quantity, Available as follows, Type MR. 38P. able as follows. Type 121/32in. square fronts.

50:LA	32/6	IA. DC	22/6
50μA 100μA	29/6	5A. DC	
200μA 500μA	27/6	3V. DC	
500µA	25/-		
50-0-50 LA	29/6	10V. DC	
100-0-100 LA		50V. DC	22/6
1mA 5mA 10mA 50mA	22/6	100V. DC	22/6
5mA	22/6	150V. DC	
10mA	22/6	300V.DC	22/6
50mA	22/6	500V. DC	22/6
100m A	22/6	750V. DC	22/6
150mA	22/6	15V. AC	22/6
200mA	22/6	50V. AC	22/6
300mA	22/6	150V, AC	22/6
500mA.	22/6	300V, AC	22/6
750mA	22/6	500V. AC	22/6
Type MR.	52 P. 23	in, sq. fr	onts
50μΑ 100μΑ 500μΑ	57/6	1mA	32/6
100:LA	47/8	10mA	32/6
500 LA	37/6	100m A	32/6
50-0-501LA	57/6	1A, DC	32/6
100-0-100 ILA		300V. DC	
	V. AC	32/6	

Type MR. 65P. 3<sup>‡</sup> x 3<sup>‡</sup>in. fronts 50μA 59/6 1mA 35/-100μA 49/6 10mA 35/-1mA 35/-10mA 35/-100mA 35/-100mA 35/-1A. DC 35/-300V. DC 35/-300V. AC 35/-500μA 39/6 50-0-50μA 59/6 100-0-100μA 49/6 POST EXTRA BAKELITE



PANEL METERS First. grade

uality quality. 3in. square 100mA • Moving iron, others all moving coil.

**ILLUMINATED 'S' METER** 121/32in. sq. front. Cal. in S units. 6V lamp, 29/6. P.P. 1/-,

MORE METER BARGAINS 100µA. 2}in. Flush 30-0-30mA 2}in. 300V. AC 2}in. 500V. AC 2}in. 1mA Meter Rectifiers Flush rd. 42/6 9/6 25/-25/-Post extra.

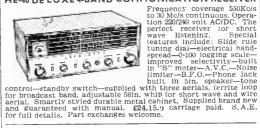
6IN. PANEL METERS Flush panel mounting, her metically sealed, 300A. DC m/c 100A. AC m/i 65/-. Post 5/-65/-. Post 5/-

WESTON S54 Moving Coil Relays Brand new boxed 42/6, P.P. 2/-.

TELEPHONES TYPE H

Sound powered, generator bell ringing 2 line connection. Fully tested. 42.19.6 pair. Carr. 5/r. and instructions 69/6 post paid.

# HE-40 DE LUXE 4-BAND COMMUNICATION RECEIVER | SEMI AUTOMATIC BUG KEY



Frequency coverage 550Kc/s

| MODEL | | 171-2 | MULTITESTER | 20,000 | O.P.V. | 20,000 | O.P.V. | D.C.; | 10,000 | O.P.V. | A.C. | Specifications: | O.E. |



### MARCONI TEL44G 4 STANDARD SIGNAL GENERATORS

First release of this late mark. 85Ke/s to 25Me/s  $\pm 1^{\circ}$ , output variable from  $1\mu V$  to 1 volt. Internal sine wave modulation 100e/s up to 75° depth, Operation 200/250 volt A.C. Offered in really excellent condition, like new fully tested and guaranteed. £25. Carr. 30/-

COSSOR DOUBLE-BEAM OSCILLOSCOPE 1035

4m, tube, Calibrated YI amplifier from 50 mV to 509. Bandwidth 10Mc/s, Calibrated YI amplifier from 50 mV to 509. Bandwidth 10Mc/s, Calibrated Y2 amplifier from 50 v, to 500V, with bandwidth up to 100Kc/s. Directly calibrated X shift providing time measurements from 15 microseconds to 160 milliseconds. Supplied in guaranteed perfect condition. 287.10.0 cach. Carr. 30/-. Spare Tubes. TYPF 80D. Brand New, 59/6 each. P. & P. 4/6.

ERSKINE TYPE 13 DOUBLE BEAM OSCILLOSCOPE

Time base 2c/s—750Kc/s. Calibrators at 100Kc/s and 1Mc/s. Separate Y1 and Y2 amblifiers up to 5.5Mc/s. Openation 110/230 volt A.C. Supplied in perfect working order. 207-10.6. Carr. 207-. CR.100 COMMUNICATION RCVRS. FIELD TELEPHONES

60Kc/s to 30Mc/s on 6 bands. 200/250 volt A.C. operation. Supplied in perfect working condition. £21 each. Carr. 30/-.

**MICROAMMETERS** 

0-500 microamp, 21in, circular flush panel mounting. Dials en graved 0-15, 0-600 volts. Brand new, boxed, 15/-, P. & P. 1/6.

MINE DETECTOR No. 4A Will detect all types of metals. Fully portable. Complete with instructions. 39/6 each. Carr. 10/-. Battery 8/6 extra.

GEARED SLIDER RHEOSTAT 1.2 ohms 12 amp. 15/6, P.P. 3/6,

FIELD STRENGTH





# MAINS RECORD PLAYERS & AUTOCHANGERS

ALL GUARANTEED WITH ARM AND CARTR	IDGE							
GARRARD SPR-10 PLAYER	£4.17.6							
GARRARD AUTOSLIM CHANGER	£6. 9.6							
GARRARD AUTOSLIM DE LUXE	£6.19.6							
GARRARD AT6 CHANGER MONO	£10. 9.6							
GARRARD AT6 CHANGER STEREO	£10.19.6							
GARRARD 4 H/F MONO	£14.19.6							
GARRARD 4 H/F STEREO	£15.15.0							
GARRARD TYPE A CHANGER	£17.15.0							
GARRARD 301 STROBO NO ARM	£19.10.0							
B.S.R. GU7 SINGLE PLAYER	£4. 7.6							
B.S.R. UA14 CHANGER	£5.19.6							
B.S.R. UA16 CHANGER	£6.12.6							
POSTACE EYTRA								

Type "L". Two line connection, generator bell ringing. Complete telephone intercom. Supplied in excellent condition, fully tested

excellent condition. (ully tested and complete with batteries. Only 49/6 per pair. Carr. 5/-Type "F". As above but moulded bakelite case (as illustrated). Supplied complete with wooden transit case for field use. \$4.19.6 per pair. Carr. 5/-.

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TRANSCEIVER

INTERNS BAND

225 pair. S.A.E. tor details.

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TRANSISTOR

TRANSCEIVERS

Average range up to 5 miles Fre-quency 27

RADIOS

quency 27 Mc/s Pand. Supplied complete with Teles-

with Teles-copic aerials

Batteries. Personal

Earpieces Leather carrying

cases and instructions. and

Brand new, guaranteed.

TE-20 RF SIGNAL GENERATOR

Accurate wide range signal generator covering 120Ke/s—260Mc/s
on 6 bands. Directly calibrated, Variable RF attenuator. Operation 200/240 V. A.C. similar in appearance to TE-46 CR Bridge.
Brand new with instructions. 212. Carr. 5-. S.A.E. for details.

AMERICAN BLOCK

PAPER CONDENSERS Very high quality. 10nrFd, 600v. 8/6: 10 mFd 1kV 10/6: 12 mFd 1.5kV 15/-. Post extra.

L.T. METAL RECTIFIERS

FULL wave bridge connected. 12/18V 1A 3/9 24/38V 1A 7/3 12/18V 2A 6/3 24/38V 2A 13/6 12/18V 4A 8/6 24/38V 15A 45/12/18V 6A 12/8 36/48V 6A 32/6 12/18V 10A 22/8 Post extra.

L.T. TRANSFORMERS

L.T. TRANSFORMERS
For chargers, models etc. All primaries tapped 200/250V.
(1) 3.5, 9 or 17V. 1 amp. 9/9: (2) ditto 2A. 14/3: (3) ditto 4A. 16/6: (4) ditto 6A. 28/-: (5) 3. 4, 5, 6, 8, 10. 12, 15, 18 20, 24 or 30V. 2 amp. 18/6: (6) ditto 4A. 30/-: (7) ditto 5A. 37/6: (8) 50V. ½ amp. 18/6: (9) 50V. 1 amp. 13/6: (9) 50V. 1 amp. 15/6. Post extra. 13/6; (9) (Post extra.

**AUTO TRANSFORMERS** AUTO IRANSFORMERS
Step up or step down. Tapped
0/115/200/230/250V. 20W. 9/+: 60W.
12/6: 75W. 15/6: 150W. 18/6:
200W. 27/6: 300W. 42/6: 500W.
67/6: 1.000W. 90/+: 1.500W.
68.19.6: 3.000W. £7.10.0:
7.500W. \* £15.0\* or 10.0:
0/110/230V.) Post extra.

# 30,000 O.P.V. TEST METER MODEL 500



Reads voltages up to 1,000 D.C. at 30,000 ohms per volt and A. C. a t 15,000 o.p.v.; D.C. current to 12 amps. Resistance to 60 Megs; Decibels from -20 to +56. Incor-+56. In-porates in-ternal buz-

porates internal buz-zer .for audible warning of direct shorts and blocking condenser for A.F. output measurements. Size 3<sup>8</sup>/<sub>18</sub> x 6<sup>8</sup>/<sub>18</sub> x 2½in. PRICE £8.17.6.

G. W. SMITH & CO. (RADIO) LTD. 3 & 34 LISLE STREET, LONDON, W.C.2. SEE OPPOSITE PAGE

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# CONSTANT VOLTAGE TRANS. 95/130V. input. 115V. output, 500 watts. Can be used in series for 230V. £4 each. Carr. 10/-.

DUMONT KIOSIPI DOUBLE

BEAM C.R.T. Twin gun, 6.3V., new, boxed, 59/6. P.P. 3/6.

MAINS ISOLATION TRANS.

30V. to 230V. 50W. 16/6, P.P. -; 100W. 29/6, P.P. 3/6; 1,000W. 5, Carr. 10/-.

### TM-59 'er 'S' METER



Signal meter us-ing VTVM principles. Calibrated in Sunits Sensiti and ZATO

justments. For any superhet receiver with AVC. Requires 150/200V. and 6 or 12V. Com-plete with valve and full 150/200V. and 6 or 12V. Complete with valve and ful instructions. 82/6. P.P. 2/6

VARIAC TRANSFORMER 24 amp. Pri. 230V. Sec. 185/ 250V. £12.10.0. Carr. 10/-.

MAINS MOTORS 220 240V 90 watts, 5.000 r.p.m. 4f x 3in. lin. spindle 22/6, P.P. 2/-.

MINIATURE LEAD ACID ACCUMULATORS Brand new. 2V, 1.5A. 4 x 1 x 11in., 5/6. P.P. 1/3. 12V. 0.75A,

5/6. P.P. 1/3. 12V. 0 4 x 3 x 1 in. 15/6, P.P. 1/6. TWIN MOTOR BARGAIN

200/250V. A.C. Twin concentric spindles. Either motor rever-sible. 1400 r.p.m. Brand new. r.p.m. Brand new. 12/6. P.P. 2/6.

MINIFLEX & TRACK TAPE HEADS Set of 3, record, playback, erase, ONLY 29/6 set, P. & P.

### COLLARO/MAGNAYOX, STUDIO TAPE TRANSCRIPTOR

Brand new. 3 speeds. 12. 31. 71 i.p.s. 3 motors, digital counter. Complete with 2 spools, instructions, 10 gns. Carr.

### 4-CHANNEL TRANSISTORISED MICROPHONE MIXER

Add musi-cal highnights and additional additions ound effects to



your recordings.
The MM-4 permits mixing of four signals such as microphone, records, tuner, etc., into single output. Inputs and output take standard pluss. Fully transistorised and self contained in handsome casc. PRICE 59/6 Post Paid.

HEAVY DUTY POWER SUPPLIES HEAVY DUIT POWER SUPPLES Input 200/250 volt A.C. Three H.T. outputs 2 x 400V. 175mA and 350V. 225mA. All fully smoothed. 2 x 6.3V. 5 amp. 6.3V. 4 amp. 12V. 0.5 amp. Supplied in perfect condition. £5.10.0. Carr. 20/-.

### PRÉCISION PORTABLE VOLTMETERS

Polished wood case. 8in. scale with knife edge pointer. A.C. and D.C. volts: 0-160 volts. 59/8: 0-160-320 volts. £5.19.6.

### HE-30 SUPER AMATEUR COMMUNICATION RECEIVER



4 bands covering 550Kc/s to 30Mc/s continuous. Operation 200/240 volt A.C. Special features include: Easy to read illuminated slide rule dial—Built in Q multiplier—Aerial trimmer—calibrated electrical bandspread on ampteur bands of 1000 continuous conti rical bandspread bands—0-100 log logging AVC/MVC

amateur bands—0-100 logging scale—noise limiter—AVC/MVC selector—stable, oscillator and B.F.O. for clear CW and SSb reCeption—built in edgewise "S' meter. Output for phones or STD speaker. Supplied brand new and guaranteed with manual. 242 carr. paid. S.A.E. (or full details. Part exchanges welcome.

### COMMUNICATION H F-80 14-VALVE **AMATEUR** RECRIVER



RECEIVER

550Kc/s to 50Mc/s+2 Metre
Band, 144 to 144Mc/s. Two
receivers in one. Continuous
coverage from 550Kc/s to
30Mc/s and 144 to 146Mc/s.
Outlier one 550Kc/s to
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Outlier on 550Kc/s to
30Mc/s and 144

NATIONAL H.R.O. RECEIVERS

SENIOR H.R.O. RECEIVERS
SENIOR MODIEL. Complete with a full set of 9 colls covering
50Kc/s to 30Mc/s. Each receiver thoroughly checked and tested
before despatch. Dual purpose rack model for table or 19in. rack
mounting. Extremely good used condition. \$18.18.0. Carr. £1.
200/250 vott A.C. power supplies for H.R.O. also sold separately.
59/6. Carr. 5/-. S.A.E. for full details.

### P.C.R.2 COMMUNICATION RECEIVERS

Excellent by valve receiver. Frequency coverage on 3 bands, 300-2,000 metres. 190-550 metres and 8-22Mc/s. Output for phone or speaker. Supplied in periect condition, 25-19.6 each. Carr. 10/-The receiver can be supplied with an internal power supply to operate on 200/250 volt A.C. at 39/6 extra. or plug in external power supplies are 35/- extra. Full circuit supplied.

### MODEL PT-34 1,000 O.P.V. MULTI-TESTER



Dependable and Easy to Read

Dependable and Easy to Read SPECIFICATIONS:

D.C. V. 0-10-50-250-500-1000 V A.C. V. 0-10-50-250-500-1000 V Current 0-1-100-5020-500-1000 V Esize: 31 x 2<sup>9</sup>·<sub>18</sub> x 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>18</sub>.

Resistance: 0-100Kg Battery: 1.5V U12.

Size: 31 x 2<sup>9</sup>·<sub>18</sub> x 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>18</sub>.

Supplied complete with batteries, leads, instructions. 39/6. Post 1/8.

# MODEL PV-58 VACUUM TUBE VOLTMETERS

MODEL PV-58 VACUUM TUBE VC
Latest design with special circuit for stable
and accurate measurements. Resistors used
are all within I\*, tolerance. Specially designed
41n. 2001A meter. 11 Mcz. Imputs. Ranges:
-D.C. V. 0-1.5-5-15-50-150-500-1500V.
A.C. V. 0-1.5-5-15-50-150-500-1500V.
A.C. V. 0-1.5-5-15-50-150-500-1500V.
Resistance: 2 ohm to 1.000 megohm.
Decibels: -10dB to +65 dB.
Operation 220/240 volt A.C. Size 7 x 4½ x 4in.
Supplied brand new and guaranteed complete
with probe and instructions. £13.19.6. P.P. 3/6.

## TF-46 CAPACITY-RESISTANCE ANALYSER



- \* Pactory wired and tested.
  \* Capacitance bridge circuit.
  \* Direct reading scales for capacitance and resistance.
  \* Magic eye null indicator and neter.
  \* Checks opens, shorts, leakage
- and intermittents.

  ★ Determines power factor of electrolytics.

  ★ 2 Turns ratio scales.

  ★ Measures impedance.

\*\* 2 lurns ratio scales. \*\*
Capacity 4 ranges 2pF-2.000 mFd. Resistance 4 ranges 2 ohms200 mex. ohm. Turns. ratio and impedance ranges. Read insulation resistance direct on meter to 200 mex. Size 104 x 7 x 51in.
Operation 200/240 V. A.C. Supplied brand new with instructions.
£18.Carr. 7/6.

### COMMUNICATION RECEIVER SPEAKER



3 v 5in, speaker in grey steel case to match HE-30 or HE-80. 8 ohm imp. Size 71 x 31 x 5in. 55/- each. P.P. 2/6.

# LAFAYETTE BRAND RECORDING TAPE

First krade quality American tapes. Brand new and guaranteed. Discounts for quantities. 5in. 600ft. L.P. acetate 10/5in. 200ft. L.P. acetate 10/5in. 1200ft. L.P. acetate 12/65/in. 1200ft. L.P. acetate 12/65/in. 1200ft. L.P. acetate 12/65/in. 1200ft. J.P. mylar 22/67/in. 1200ft. std. mylar 12/67/in. 1200ft. L.P. acetate 15/7/in. 1200ft. L.P. mylar 20/7/in. 2400ft. L.P. mylar 25/Postage 22. Over 83 post paid. 7in. 2400ft. D.P. mylar 25/-Postage 2/-. Over £3 post paid.

### TRANSISTORISED STRENGTH METER



3 bands 2.5 to 57Mc/s. Permits easy tune up for max. transmitter

trans miller cutput. Ears phone jack to monto raudo, called meter supplied complete with battery telescopic aerial. 27.7.0 each.

HEADSET & BOOM MICROPHONE American type, low impedance, padded, 49/6. P.P. 2/6.

R.C.A. HEADSETS Low imp. Fitted with std. jack plus. 15/6, P.P. 1/6.

ROTARY TRANSFORMERS 12V. D.C. input. Output 310/ 360V. D.C. 30mA. New boxed. 10/-. P.P. 2/-.

INSTRUMENT POTS. Wirewound, 3in. dia. 5/6 each. P.P. 1/3.

R.C.A. PLATE TRANSFORMERS 200/250V, pri. 2.000-1-500-0-1,500-2.000V. 500mA. New, boxed, £6.10.0. Carr. £1.

PHOTO VOLTAGE AMP, UNITS Fitted with twin selenium photo cells, Tinsley mirror galvo. £9.19.6 each. Carr. 7/6.

500 YOLT BRIDGE MEGGERS Evershed Vignoles series 11. Supplied in as new condition, complete with leather case, £40 each. Guaranteed.

# PRECISION COMBINATION VOLTMETER

volimeter Ammeter
Two separate instruments
housed in polished wood case,
6in. scales with knife edge
pointers, Ranses as follows;
Aby and D.A. vost 1. Edge
rent; 0-25.3-150-200 amps. Supplied complete with shunts,
leads and the complete with shunts. plied complete with shunts, leads and leather carrying case. Brand new condition. 29.19.6 each. Carr. 7/6.

# STOCKS COMPONENTS receivers and test equipment in

the country. Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Every day, Monday to Saturday. Trade supplied. S.A.E. for Valve Lists, etc.

# Cables SMITHEX LESQUARE 3-34 LISLE STREET, LONDON, W.C.2

ALL ORDERS DESPATCHED SAME DAY • WE PAY POSTAGE and INSURANCE @ ALL TRANS-ACTIONS receive PERSONAL ATTENTION and PROTECTION from our MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

★ MART	) h	1	RI	ECORDAKITS *			
For HALF TRACK	Dep.	&c	Mthly pmts		Dep.	&	Mthl: pmts
Tape Amplifier for Studio Deck with ready wired printed			of	B.S.R. TD2 Deck with Marriott "L" Scries heads £11.11.0	24/	12	19/-
ircuit control and input panels, mains and output ransformers, knobs, plans, screws, etc. EF86, ECC83				Tape Amplifier for B.S.R. deck, as over, but quarter track	20/-	9	21/-
5Z80 EM85 and 2 EL84. 3 watts out 1 t Magic eye, adio and Mic. inputs. Ext. speaker socket. Tone and	041	10	19/-	TAPE PRE-AMPLIFIER			
Monitor controls. Can be used as an amplifier . £11.11.0 Collaro Studio Deck. Very latest mode, 3 speeds, 7in.	24/~	12	27/3	For Studio Deck, with power supplies, ECUS3, ECLS2, EZS0 and EMS4. Mic. and Radio sockets, gives an equalised output of 400 m/Volts Half Track £8.8.0 Quarter Track £9.9.0	'		
pools	58/-	12	48/2	equalised output of 400 m/Volts, Half Track 28.8.0 Quarter Track 29.9.0	20/- 20/-	8	21/-
B.S.R. Monardeck TD2, latest model 5 in. spools £9.9.0	20/-	9	21/-	Building Instructions available at 2/6 each Kit (refunded on purchasing Kit).			
Tape Amplifier for B.S.R. Deck, printed circuit ready circuit BCC83, ECL82, EM85 and EZ80. Complete				TAPE HEADS			
aith all plugs, sockets, panels, knobs, etc. Mounts under leek making a self-contained unit	20/-	8	21/-	MSS Quarter track. Record/Playback and Erase per set \$2.3.0 Bradmatic Halftrack Record/Playback head only \$1.12.6	=	=	_
For QUARTER TRACK				Bradmatic Half trac Record/Playback and Erase on	_	_	_
Caollaro Studio Deck, Marriott "N" heads£17.17.0 Tape Amplifier for Studio Deck, described above, but	37/6	12	29/5	plate £1.19.6 Collaro pressure pad for third head position			-
quarter track £12.12.0 ase, with speaker, two tone grey £5.5.0	87/-	12	20/8	BRENELL Mk. 5 Series 2 Drok, Half track 4 speed\$32.11.0	65/-	12	54/
Complete Kit with Tape and Microphone\$35,0,0	70/-	12	58/2	Mk. 5 Series 2 Tape Amplifier with power pack £26.0.0	52/-	12	43/
CDAMODUONE UNITE MOTODE	וומ	PΙ	UPS	MONO AMPLIFIERS			
GRAMOPHONE UNITS, MOTORS, Decca Deram Arm and Plug-in Shell	FII	PV-	Ura	Linear L45, 3 watt, 3 valve£5.19.6	- 1	_	
Decca Deram Transcription Cartridge £4.14.6	=	Ξ	=	Linear Diatonic, 12 watt, suitable Mrc. or Guitar £12.12.0	27/-	12	20/
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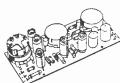


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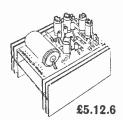
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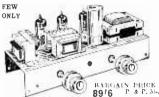
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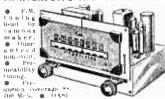
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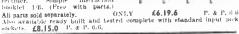
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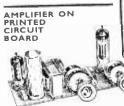
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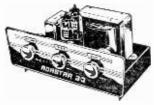
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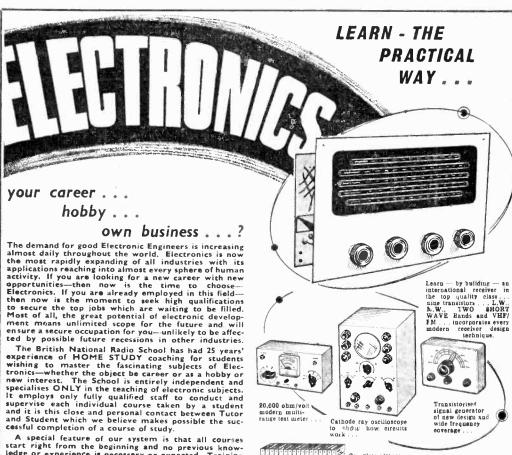
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≡	This "I" Business 47	Ξ
=	Medium Wave Aerial Data 50	Ξ
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Ξ	Communications Through the	=
=	Ground 56	Ξ
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=		Ξ
=	P.W. Leader Competition 61	Ξ
$\equiv$	A Simple 2-stage Amplifier 65	Ξ
=	Books Reviewed 70	=
=	A Mains Distribution Panel 73	
==		≣
	Club News 74	
Ξ	Trade News 77	
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# Leaders Galore!

"HE Editor asks for a leader. He must be slipping!" thus begins one of the contributions to the Leader Competition. Another suggested that as nobody ever reads the leader, his entry was so much waste of time and effort. From these two comments alone, it will be obvious that readers not only accepted the challenge but took the opportunity to get in a few sly digs at the same time!

The number of entries was much larger than anticipated and we were very impressed with the high general standard-two factors which made the judging extremely difficult. It was doubly gratifying that the response was so good, for the prizes offered were nominal and most readers were obviously stimulated to take part through pure interest and enthusiasm.

And what an extraordinary variety of entries came in! There were unabashed lighthearted leaders and stern censorious ones. There were leaders on the past, the present Many took the theme of space and elecand the future. tronics. Others looked at valves and transistors. Some concerned themselves with various aspects of design and construction. One was addressed to contributors; another spoke of writing for PRACTICAL WIRELESS. Several developed the richness and variety of our hobby, but another warned of the narrowness of outlook of those too fully wrapped up in radio. Then there were articles on kits, on amateur bands, on home movies, and on many other practical or abstract subjects. Hardly anything or anyone escaped this literary onslaught!

Not only was there a vast range of subjects and attitudes, but participation from all age groups. The youngest and oldest (known) contributors were 14 and 70 years old respectively.

This flood of material presented a formidable task to the judging panel. A process of elimination began. Personal viewpoints of the judges were not, of course, allowed to influence selection or rejection, but some entries were obviously unsuitable subjects for leaders and others failed because the writers did not develop a good original theme or were sidetracked.

This preliminary thinning out still left a considerable number of survivors which was eventually reduced to a final "short list" of ten—and here, the panel ran into trouble for these were all good enough to take the winning positions. The selections finally made are printed on pages 61 and 62, together with a list of "highly commended" entries.

Very many thanks to everyone who co-operated. It was a fine effort. Every entry received was carefully considered and even those which were rejected early on often showed considerable merit. And now that he knows so many readers look at the leader column, your Editor will have to be particularly careful what he writes in future!

Our next issue dated June will be published on May 7th



# **NEWS AT HOME** AND ABROAD

# New Submarine Cable Links U.K. and Germany

P until recently, all telephone connections between country and Western Germany have had to be routed through Belgium and the Netherlands. Now, with the inauguration in February of the first direct, large capacity, submarine telephone cable linking Britain and the Federal Republic, 120 new telephone circuits become available. any one of which will carry 24 telegraph circuits.

The new cable connects Winterton, in Norfolk with Borkum Island, from where it is taken to Leer on the German mainland. Two ships were employed in the 200 nautical mile long, cable laying operation; the G.P.O.'s H.M.T.S. "Monarch" and the Danish cableship "Peter Faher". The cable was manufactured by Standard Telephones and Cables Limited, who also supplied the repeaters and equalisers.

Apart from British/German traffic, a number of channels in the cable will be allocated to United States/German connections, and by linking up with the TÁT 3 U.K./U.S.A. existing cable, will thus provide direct circuits between the U.S.A. and West Germany.

A second Anglo-German cable will be in service later this year.

# Changes Its Title ROM the very early days of the British Institution of Radio Engineers (founded in 1925) there have been those who advocated the inclusion of "electronic" in its title. After the War the

Institution's name again came under discussion with the increasing recognition of the amount of activity in the Institution which was covered by the term "electronics". This fact has steadily become more apparent and now, nearly three years after the Institution was incorporated by Royal Charter, the Queen was pleased, at a Privy Council held by her Majesty on 26th February, 1964, to make an Order in Council allowing amendments to the Charter of The British Institution of Radio Engineers changing its name to "The Institution of Electronic and Radio Engineers'

# RADIO TELESCOPE FOR DSIR

THE Ministry of Public Building and Works recently placed a contract with the Electronics Group of Associated Electrical Industries Limited, for the design and installation of a radio telescope for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research at Chilbolton in Hampshire.

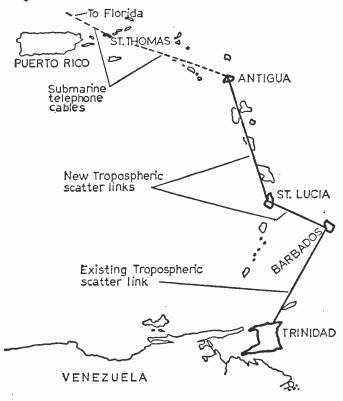


Backed by considerable experience in the design of steerable aerials, AEI's Electronics Group has designed the new aerial to be steered with a pointing accuracy of two minutes of arc, in winds of up to 45m.p.h. The drive motors which will steer the aerial's 82ft. dish-which together with the rest of the moving structure will weigh approximately 300 tonswill be supplied by AEI's Motor and Control Gear Division,

The DSIR eventually plans to use the new telescope in its study of radiation and radio signals pick-up.

A model of the new 'eerab'e aerial to be supplied by AEI to the DSIR.

# **EQUIPMENT FOR CARIBBEAN LINKS**



A map of the Eastern Caribbean showing existing and planned tropospheric scatter links and submarine cables.

# Irish Islands Get Telephone Service

BY linking four islands off the western and southern coasts of Ireland with mainland telephone exchanges, v.h.f. radiotelephone equipment made by the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company Limited, will bring a public telephone service to the

islands' inhabitants for the first time.

The equipments—known as "Country Sets"—are capable of operating from 12V battery supplies, providing exactly the same service as a conventional land-line system. Transistorised circuits help minimise power consumption which at the mainland terminals of the links can be provided for by either mains or battery supplies.

The Country Sets operate on 54—88Mc/s or 156—184Mc/s and these particular installations will link Inishmeane with Bunbeg. Inishturk with Cleggan, Achill Beg with Achill Sound and Long Island with Baltimore.

# RADIO TELEPHONES FOR DANISH POLICE

THE whole of Denmark is to be covered by a radio telephone network which will link mobile units of the Danish police to fixed stations at their head-quarters. The contract for this installation has been awarded to Pye Telecommunications Limited by the Danish State Police after extensive field trials.

Police cars and motorcycles will be equipped with radio telephones employing transistorised receivers and instant heating transmitting valves.

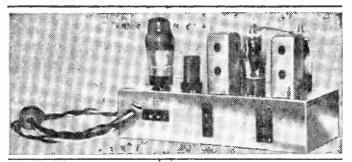
EQUIPMENT for the multichannel tropospheric scatter and microwave link system to be established in the islands of the Eastern Caribbean (see Round the World of Wireless last month) is to be the responsibility of the Marconi Company Ltd.

The two new tropospheric scatter links will connect Antigua to St. Lucia and St. Lucia to Barbados, distances of 220 and 112 miles respectively. The Antigua-St. Lucia installation will be a Marconi 900Mc/s tropospheric scatter link, providing 64 telephone channels. At each end of the link, two 30ft, diameter dishes will be erected with parametric amplifiers to give a low noise factor. The 2.000Mc/s tropospheric scatter link between St. Lucia and Barbados, will be of American manufacture by the Radio Engineering Laboratories Inc., and will carry 80 channels. A Marconi 900Mc/s link is already in existance providing communication between the final two terminal islands in the system—Barbados and Trinidad -but under the contract, the capacity of this link will be increased from 12 to 64 channels.

Short overland connections in Antigua, St. Lucia and Barbados will be necessary to complete each section of the system. At Antigua and Barbados these connections will be provided by twin path 7.000Mc/s microwave links manufactured by Pye Telecommunications Limited, carrying 64 and 92 telephone channels respectively, to link, in the first case, the St. Thomas-Antigua submarine cable to the Antigua-St. Lucia 900Me/s link, and in the latter case to link the Barbados terminals of the second and last legs of the tropospheric scatter link. On St. Lucia will be a short, v.h.f. link, providing a 32 channel path between the first and second legs.

# Pye in India

A NEW radio receiver factory opened recently in Bombay under the administration of the Tata Group of India and National Ecko Radio and Engineering Limited of Bombay, and the British firm. Pye of Cambridge. Pye will collaborate with the Tata Group to produce eventually more than 200.000 radio receivers a year from this one factory, which will be the largest of its kind in India.



# The Hillingdon RADIOGRAM

BY J. B. WILLMOTT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1164 OF THE APRIL ISSUE

THE circuit of this switch-tuned a.m. radiogram was described in last month's issue along with details of chassis construction. The next step is to assemble and wire up the two chassis.

# MOUNTING THE COMPONENTS

Reference should be made to Fig. 5, which shows the layout of components and wiring underneath the chassis. It is recommended that components be mounted in the following order:

First of all fit a rubber grommet in the §in. diameter hole on the rear chassis runner which is to allow for entry of the six-way power supply cable. Using 6B.A. nuts and bolts, the aerial, earth, pick-up and loudspeaker sockets can now be mounted on the rear runner, also the four-way tagstrip TS4 adjacent to the grommeted hole previously referred to.

Now mount the four octal valveholders, noting particularly the orientation of the locating spigots. Again use 6B.A. nuts and bolts and at the same time include the tagstrips TS1 and TS2 on one fixing bolt of V1 and V2 respectively, also the solder tag on fixing bolts of V4 and V3.

The i.f. transformers can next be mounted, not forgetting to include the tagstrip TS3 on one mounting bolt of T2. The output transformer is also mounted beneath the chassis.

The tone control and volume control, may now be secured to the front chassis runner and finally the coilpack unit. Handle this component with care and make sure that it is fixed with the "green" and "red" tags nearest the top (open) edge of the chassis runner (see Fig. 5). The fixing nuts of these three components should be screwed up really firmly, preferably using shakeproof washers between the nuts and chassis surface.

Turning now to the power supply chassis, the position of the various components should be easily seen from the drilling diagram (Fig. 3) given last month. The mains transformer is mounted above chassis and the choke and smoothing capacitors below. The power output socket is on the end runner nearest the rectifier valve V5. Rubber grommets should be fitted in all holes marked "B" as in each case these provide for current-carrying leads passing through the chassis.

### WIRING UP

It is strongly recommended that the power supply chassis be wired up first in order that when the constructor has completed the more complex wiring of the main chassis he already has the power unit complete and ready to connect up and test the completed job without further delay.

Wiring of the power supply calls for no special comment; reference to the theoretical circuit in Fig. 1 should make it perfectly clear. Extreme care must be used in wiring the power take-off socket, adhering strictly to the pin numbering as shown. It is a good plan to carry out the wiring of the octal plug as the next operation whilst the socket wiring is fresh in the mind.

The exact length of cable required to reach from main chassis to power pack depends on the positioning of the two units in the cabinet, but it is better to allow too much lead rather than "just enough". It is recommended that the six-way cable be made up of a twisted red/black, a twisted yellow/blue (or any other pair of colours differing from red/black) and a flat twin length of plastic insulated flex. These leads are terminated on the octal plug as follows:

Pin 1.-No connection.

Pin 2.—Blue flex (earthed side of 6.3V heater

Pin 3.—One lead of flat twin flex.

Pin 4.—Other lead of flat twin flex.

Pin 5,--- No connection.

Pin 6. Red flex (h.t. positive line).

Pin 7.—Yellow flex (live side of 6.3V heater supply).

Pin 8.—Black flex (h.t. negative and chassis).

The cable can be plaited together or bound at intervals with insulating tape. Thread the end of the cable through the grommeted hole on the rear chassis runner of the main chassis and anchor the leads to the four-way tagstrip TS4 as shown in Fig. 5, again taking extreme care not to make any errors in the colour coding. The remaining leads are connected to the on/off switch on VR2.

valve are earthed to chassis and form the heater supply return. The tagstrips TS1, TS2 and TS3, the volume and tone controls and the coilpack can next be wired up. The various anode, screen and cathode connecting components should be secured to their respective valveholder pins, their other ends being left "free" for later connection to busbar or h.t. rail.

A heater supply for the indicator lamp is connected in parallel with the heater of V2 and taken through the chassis via the 4in, hole adjacent to the V2 valveholder. The indicator lamp is not fixed to the chassis but is on a fly-lead long enough to permit its being mounted on the surface panel of the completed radiogram.

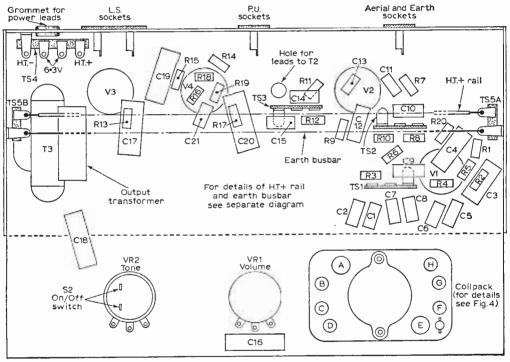


Fig. 5: The relative positions of components mounted beneath the chassis main.

Make a careful check of all wiring and then proceed to the wiring up of the main chassis. A feature to note here is the provision of a main negative busbar and an h.t. positive rail stretched across the full length of the chassis (see Fig. 5). Most of the voltage dropping and cathode bias resistors, together with their associated decoupling capacitors, are anchored at one end to the earth busbar, their other ends going to the appropriate valveholder pins. This makes assembly much simpler and the result is both neat and efficient and greatly facilitates testing and servicing should this prove necessary at some future date.

Before the busbar and h.t. rail are put in position, however, wire up the heater supply to pin 7 of each valveholder. Pins 1 and 2 on each

The negative busbar, comprising a length 14 or 16s.w.g. tinned copper wire, is now stretched tightly across the chassis between the earthed tags of TS5(a) and TS5(b) and the appropriate components soldered to it.

A further length of wire is now measured off to stretch from the insulated tag of TS5(a) to that of TS5(b), but this is provisionally soldered into position at one end only. Short lengths of insulating sleeving are then slid on, leaving gaps at appropriate distances to permit the connection of voltage dropping resistors and "red" leads to T1 and T2 (see Fig. 6). The wire is then secured at its free end and the appropriate connections made to this h.t. rail.

This should complete all wiring and a careful

check should be made. It is a good plan to colour in each wire on the theoretical diagram as it is checked. Make sure that where screened leads are used the screening braid does not foul any nearby tags or components and that where the braid is shown as "earthed" it is securely anchored to the tag in question. A screened lead was used in the prototype for the connection between TSI, below chassis, and the top cap grid of VI as a precautionary measure. It is conceivable that unwanted coupling between this rather lengthy lead and that going from the top of T2 to the grid of V2 might cause instability.

If a multirange testmeter is available routine tests can now be carried out to ensure that there are no short-circuits existing between the h.t. line and chassis or between the live heater line and

driver to the "live" pick-up socket on the rear panel; a loud and healthy "brrrr . . ." from the speaker should result which should vary in intensity with the setting of the volume control.

This test proves the correct working of the audio stages V3 and V4. Now turn the selector switch to any one of the "radio" positions and tap the top cap of V2 with the screwdriver with volume control at maximum position; a sharp "click" should be audible. Repeat this by touching first the top cap of V1, then the aerial socket on the rear panel. If the desired response is obtained it is fair to assume that no serious wiring errors have been made and some attempt can be made to receive a signal.

Actually, when received from the manufacturers, the coilpack will probably be found to have been

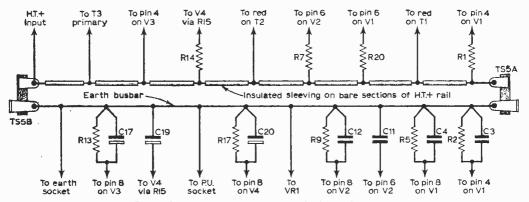


Fig. 6: Component wiring to the earth busbar and h.t. rail.

chassis. If all is in order the completed receiver can now be tested.

# **TESTING AND ALIGNMENT**

Plug the main chassis into the power supply unit (never operate the latter without a suitable "load" on the h.t. supply, in actual fact the inclusion of the on/off switch on the main chassis renders it impossible to switch on the power unit without the two chassis being connected). Insert the valves into their appropriate valveholders, not overlooking the fact that the 6J5, which is V4 on the circuit diagram, actually occupies the position between V2 and V3 on the main chassis, and connect the loudspeaker to the sockets provided on the rear chassis runner.

Set the selector switch on the coilpack to the "gram" position, fully clockwise, and with the volume control at minimum (anticlockwise) switch on by turning VR2 until the "click" of the switch is heard.

Watch and listen carefully for any signs of overheating; the pilot lamp should come on immedately and the valve heaters glow after a few seconds. Gradually advance the volume control to maximum—a slight "breathing" sound should be audible from the speaker or possibly a very faint mains hum. Now advance the blade of a screw-

roughly aligned to the BBC London Home, Light and Third programmes. In the case of the prototype, signals were audible at all four positions of the switch as soon as an aerial was connected up. prealigned 465kc/s i.f. transformers having been used in construction.

However, for those possibly less fortunate here is the procedure for alignment. If a signal generator is available alignment of the i.f. transformers to 465kc/s can be carried out as the first operation. As the method of doing this will almost certainly be already known to anyone possessing a signal generator it will not be repeated here.

Those without such an instrument need not despair as with reasonable care and patience this receiver can be satisfactorily aligned without the use of instruments.

Turn the selector switch fully anticlockwise: this is the position in which the BBC Light Programme (on 247m where coilpack CP4/MG is used or on 1,500m where CP4/LG is used) should be received. Insert a suitable trimming tool through the hole in the front panel giving access to the core of coil "E" and screw slowly in or out until the signal can be heard. Now transfer the trimming tool to the core of coil "A" and adjust for maximum volume.

Next carefully adjust the cores of the i.f. transformers in turn, beginning with T1 primary and

working through to T2 secondary for maximum volume. Not more than one or two turns either way from the setting in which the components were originally supplied (provided prealigned ones have been ordered) should be necessary.

Repeat the adjustments a second time to see if any further improvement can be obtained. Naturally without a signal generator there will be no guarantee that the i.f. transformers will be aligned exactly to 465kc/s, but as no ganging of tuned circuits by a variable capacitor is involved this is not of great consequence.

Now return to the adjustment of cores "E" and "A" as a further improvement will no doubt

be now obtainable.

Turn the wavechange switch to position 2 and in this position adjustment of cores "F" and "B" should enable the B.B.C. Third Programme on 464m to be tuned in. Similarly in position 3 the Home Service should be located and on position 4 Radio Luxembourg on 208m, by adjustment of cores "G" and "C" and "H" and "D" respectively.

The position of the various tuning cores is clearly shown on the data sheet supplied with the

coilpack (Fig. 4, last month).

### INSTALLING THE CHASSIS

When fully satisfied with the alignment the chassis can be fitted into the cabinet.

The screened pick-up lead from the record player unit should be terminated by a red wander plug for the inner lead and a black wander plug for the screening braid; these, of course, plug into the appropriate sockets on the rear panel of the main chassis.

The gramophone motor can be conveniently connected by a length of twin flex across the primary tags of the mains transformer on the power unit chassis. This will then ensure that when the radio receiver switch is in the "off" position the gram motor is simultaneously disconnected from the mains.

It will be found that a very pleasing standard of reproduction will be obtainable from records, with more than adequate volume for all domestic needs. The maximum output obtainable approaches 4W.

Normally the tone control will require setting at the minimum position (anticlockwise) as the V4 stage already provides enhanced bass response, but it may, of course, be advanced slightly to counteract surface noise on the older type 78 records.



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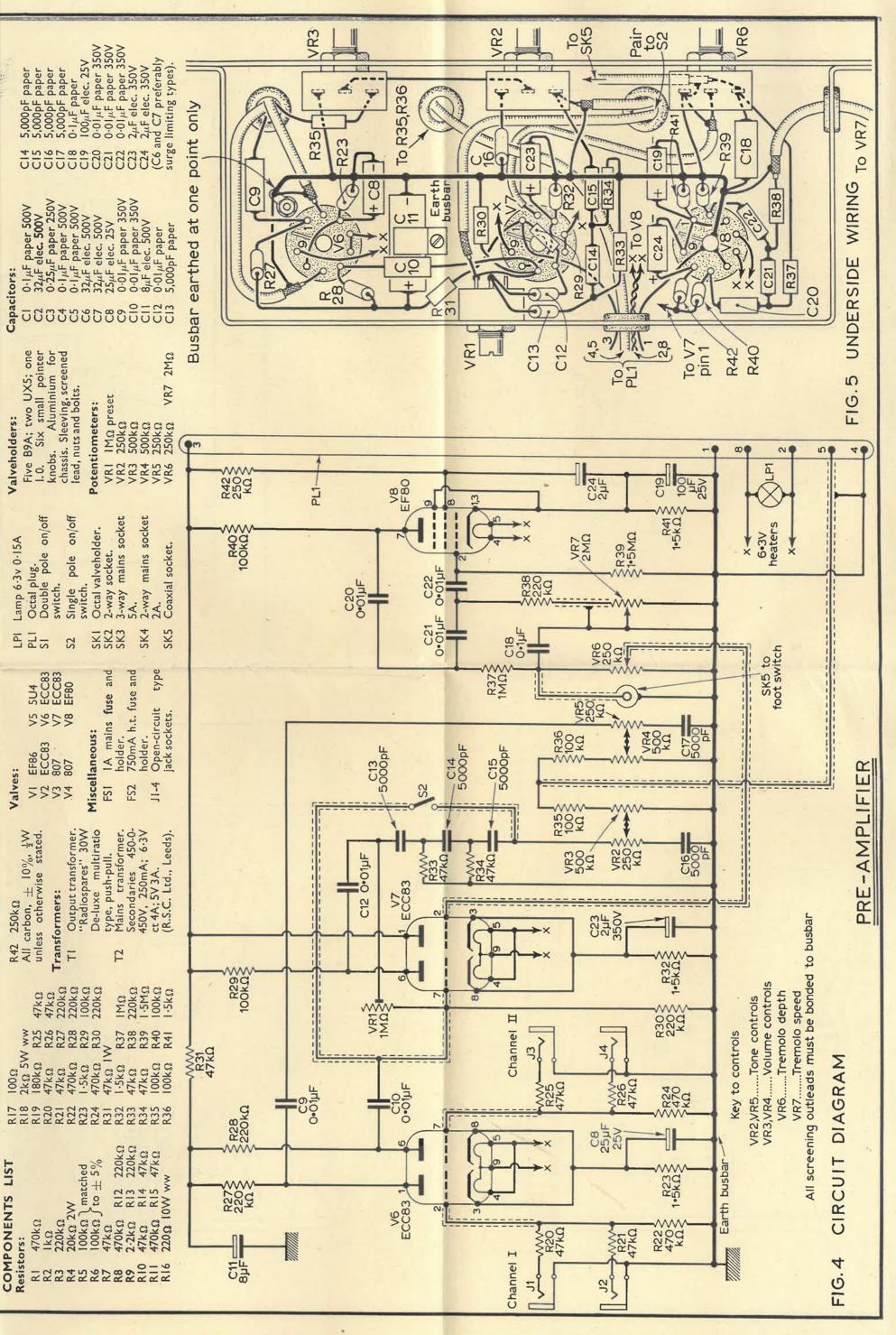
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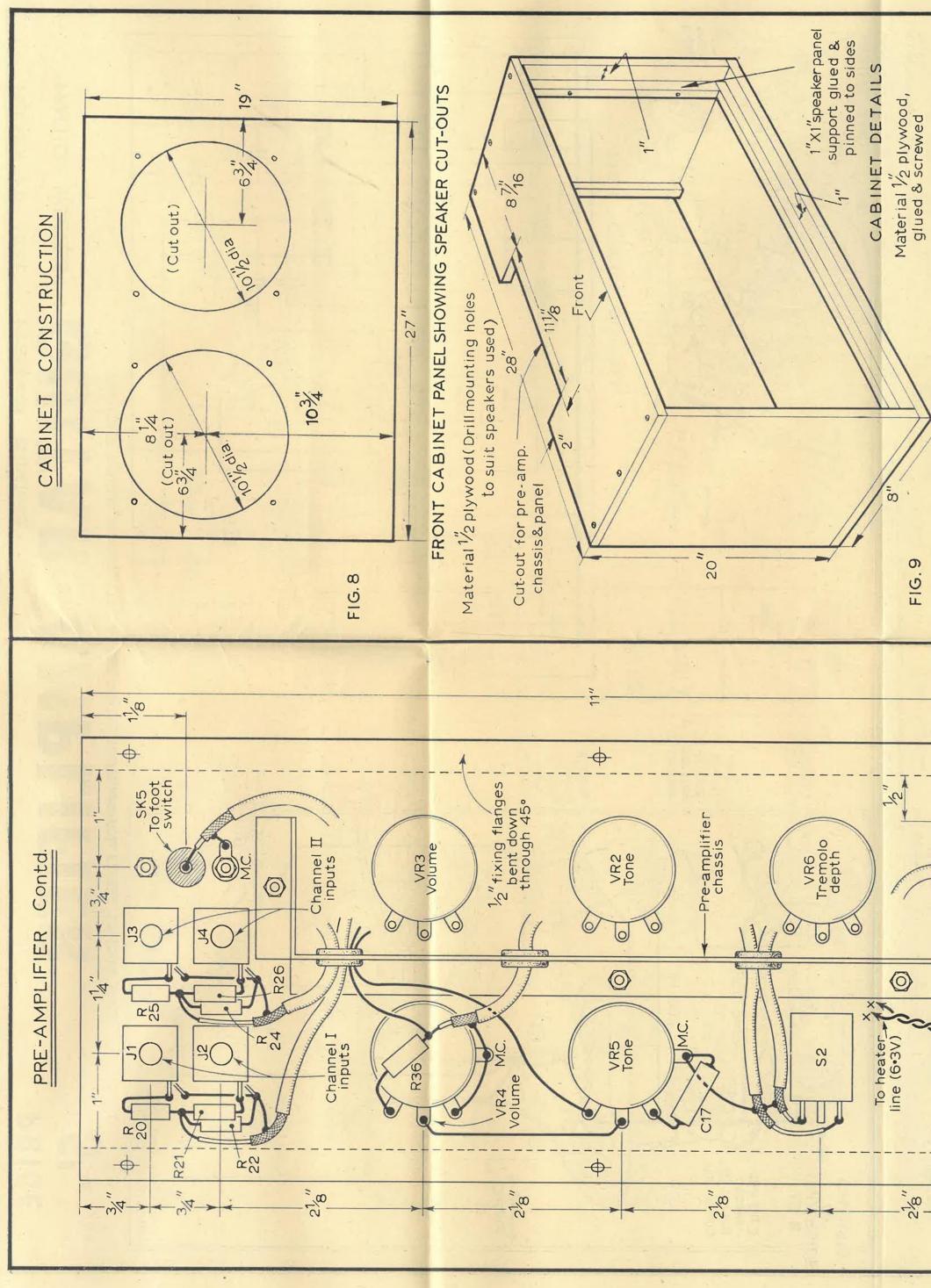
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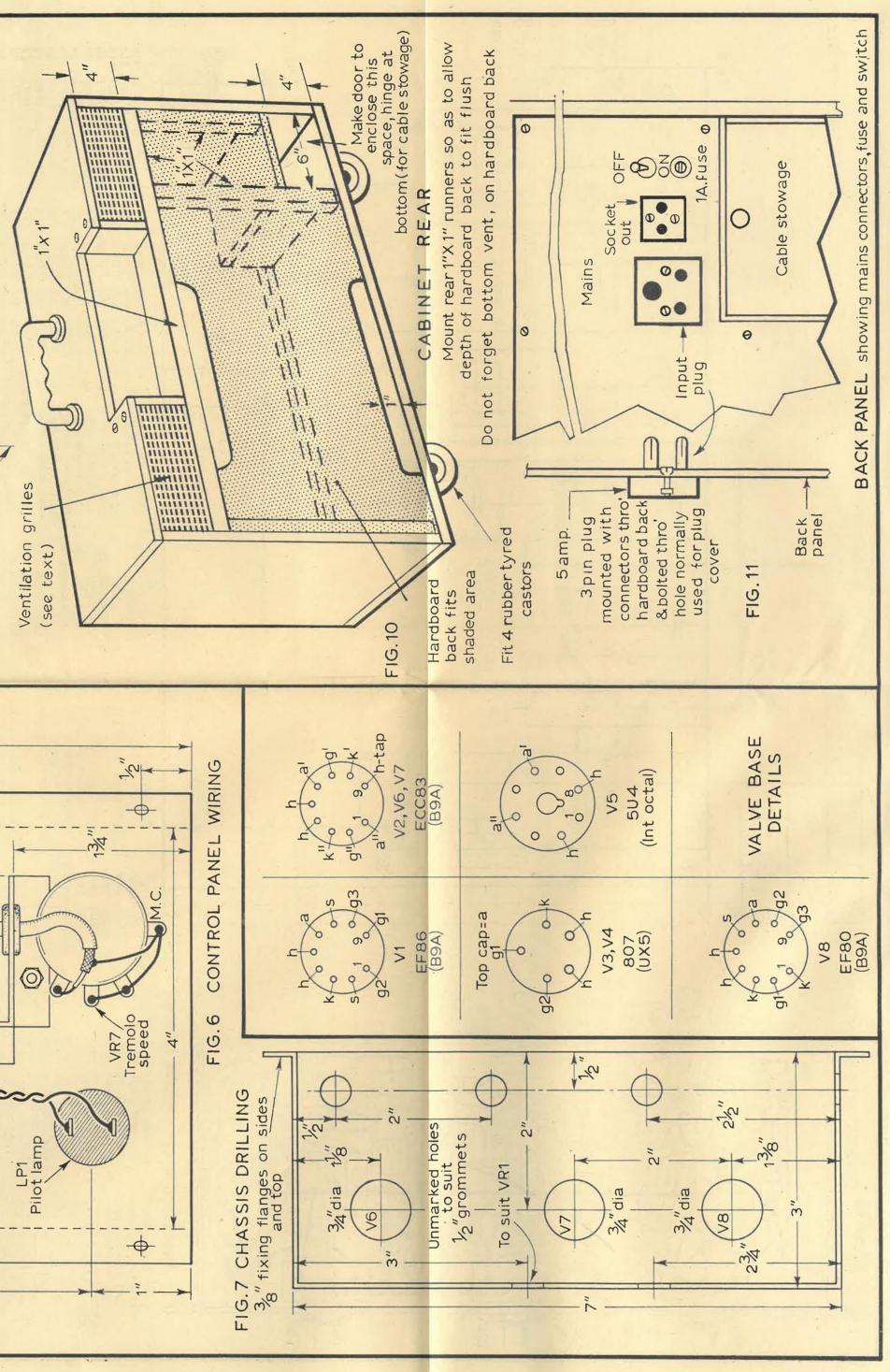
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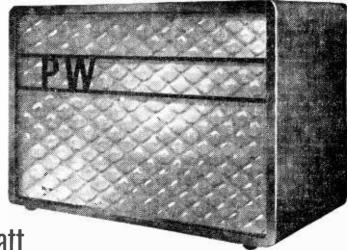
FIG. 2 UNDERSIDE OF CHASSIS Output transfmr. Connection to transformer screen For V1 and V2 wiring details see Fig.3 Core 0 0 V3 807 091 Mains transformer V1 EF86 0 6.3V sec. direction Earth busbar V2 ECC83 Core ð= Screened PUBLISHED BY GEO. NEWNES LTD., TOWER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, LONDON W.C.2. 5V Sec. **V4 807** 910 To Ct. on T1 pri. TO 1 sec. primary leads FS2 HT. fuse V5 5U4 2407 C) 90 220V **C**4 SK1 STAGES SK2 L.S. output size 12" long, 7" wide, 2" deep Busbar 0 Chassis To AC mains via FS1 and SI Outlet-socket at one point only POWER UNIT AND OUTPUT FS1 1Amp On/Off switch mains FS2 750mA HT. fuse 000000000000 500 6.3V heaters 1500 Secondary connections 283 883 883 ZKD 5W To V 3 To V4 To L.S. 14 or 16 swg. 3201 To C6+ve Negative feedback line R15 R19 (1 22 2 Negative feedback line RCUIT DIAGRAM V3 807 220 Earth busbar 1"above valvebase spigot R4 20kp 0.25µF CS 6 2.2kD 8105 47kns C R10 R7 470kn V2 ECC83 Earth R9 F16.1 C R7 4 To C2 +ve 0-1년 COMPONENTS **25 25 25** V1 & V2 WIRING AND 220k0\$ Ra Htrs. SK1 Input S JW







Design by B. L. Phillips



The P.W. 35 Watt

# **GUITAR AMPLIFIER**

A QUALITY INSTRUMENT FEATURING SEPARATE TONE CONTROLS, TREMOLO FACILITY AND A 20 c/s-20 kc/s RESPONSE

THERE has been a lot of interest shown recently in amplifying equipment for use with the electric guitar and guitar bass. There are, of course, numerous amplifier units available commercially for use with the guitar, but the better types are expensive, and information available to the home constructor is somewhat difficult to obtain, making it rather difficult to build an amplifier from "scratch" unless the constructor has had some experience in this field.

The requirements of an amplifier for use with guitar and guitar bass are rather different in a number of respects to units used exclusively for music or speech reproduction. Using an ordinary amplifier with a guitar invariably gives poor results much to the dismay of the user; apart from the danger of damage to the amplifier itself and the loudspeaker.

Two of the major requirements needed in this application are, a high transient power output over a wide frequency range at low distortion, and an extremely good low frequency response together with high sensitivity. Apart from the amplifier, various electronic "gimmicks" are required, such as the "tremolo" facility, which are not found on ordinary sound amplifying equipment.

Together with the electrical side there is the mechanical layout to consider. The unit must be rugged, the loudspeaker(s) able to handle the full output without distortion or risk of damage, and the whole equipment must be able to stand being run at high outputs for long periods of time. Transportability is another requirement.

After some considerable experimenting and design work, the PRACTICAL WIRELESS Guitar Amplifier was evolved. This amplifier has been compared with the most expensive guitar amplifiers available and will be found as good as anything that can be purchased commercially. Particular attention has been paid to rugged cabinet construction and the use of high quality components—this does tend to make the amplifier somewhat expensive to build, but the final results will more than repay the cost and work involved. Disappointing results may be caused by using inferior of faulty components that have been lying in the "spares box" some considerable time.

Most constructors will have no difficulty with building this equipment, for the diagrams on the Blueprint enclosed with this issue of Practical Wireless have been made as clear as possible to enable the amateur to obtain successful results. One point that needs mentioning is that the recommended layouts must be used for optimum performance—any old chassis available will just not do. To avoid unwanted feedback, hum, etc., components must be laid out as shown in the diagrams.

It is surprising the number of constructors who cannot get satisfactory results from equipment published in these pages purely because they have not followed the practical layouts given, The practical layout is as important as the electrical circuit it contains.

#### Specification

The PRACTICAL WIRELESS Guitar Amplifier has the following specification:

- twin-channel amplification: Independent separate tone and volume controls; two inputs per channel, four inputs in all.
- Variable speed and depth tremolo facility on one channel, with optional foot switch control.
- A 35W power amplifier with heavy negative feedback and a response of 25c/s to 20,00c/s
- Twin heavy duty 12in. loudspeakers, mounted in line.
- Robust cabinet built to allay resonance, even when used at full output with a bass guitar.
- Mains voltage outlet panel for additional attachments such as an echo unit.

Construction of the guitar amplifier will be described step by step, the first part to be dealt with being the power unit and main amplifier.

#### Power Supply and Output Stages

The power supply and output stages of the amplifier are combined on one chassis entirely separate from the pre-amplifier section. This unit consists of the mains power pack, output stages, the phase inverter and driver valve.

Type 807 valves have been used in the output due to their ease of supply, cheapness and excellent results when used in this circuit. The fact that the anode connections of the 807 are brought out to a top cap, makes amplifier stability easier to arrange as the anode circuits are automatically placed well away from earlier circuit parts.

The complete circuit of the power supply and output stages is given in Fig. 1, and the practical layout of the wiring and components is given in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3. Particular attention should be given to the way the earth busbar is run, with only actual chassis connection being at the outlet socket to the pre-amplifier.

Actual dimensions of the transformers and their mounting feet have not been given as some constructors may wish to use components to hand, the only important point being that the transformers are mounted basically as shown (and, of course, that they are of the correct ratings as specified).

It is suggested that the heater wiring is run first. Only one side of the heater wiring is grounded and this is performed at the earth busbar near the mains transformer. There should be no other earth to the heater wiring. If the heater winding has a centre tap, this should be grounded in place of one side of the supply.

Fig. 3 shows a closer view of the components around the V1 and V2 valveholders, and this layout must be closely followed for stable results. Pay particular attention to the grid stoppers R14 and 15, these are wired close to the 807 grid pins; the wire end from resistor to grid pin not being

longer than \frac{1}{2}in.

The cathode bias resistor R16 being a 10W type is rather large in bulk, and if the type with a hole running the entire centre of the component is available, it may be mounted on the chassis by placing a 4BA bolt through it and mounting to the chassis side. A fibre washer at each end will hold the resistor without damage.

It is rather difficult to show in a simple line drawing such as Fig. 3 the true physical layout of all components exactly as they appear when wired up. Some of the components have, of necessity, been moved further away from their actual positions so their connections can be clearly followed

The main point to remember when making up this chassis is to keep all signal leads as short as possible, i.e. the signal side of all resistors should be no longer than  $\frac{1}{2}$ in., the capacitors being placed so that as little connecting wire as possible is used. All capacitors are wired with the outside foil (usually marked on the component with a black line or the letters "O.S"), towards the earthy side of the circuit. Use plastic or "Systoflex" sleeving over all bare connections, and make sure all soldered connections are well made to avoid dry

All main components such as valveholders, electrolytic capacitors and transformers should be soundly bolted down, preferably with shake-proof washers under all nuts. There is a high level of vibration in the completed cabinet, especially when used with the bass guitar, so all bolted parts need to be very secure.

#### **Transformers**

The specified mains transformer is supplied as a double shrouded upright type. For use with this unit, one half of the shroud is removed by undoing the four retaining bolts temporarily. The transformer can then be mounted on the chassis

as a half-shrouded, drop through type.

Some mention should also be made about the output transformer. Various types have been tried, and the best one for overall response and power handling qualities was found to be one made by "Radiospares". This particular transformer is known as the "De Luxe" model, and has an excellent specification, and a continuous rated output of 30W. The maximum d.c. current per primary being 125mA. Other output transformers can be used of course, providing they have the correct impedance match and can handle the power. The correct matching in this circuit is a primary impedance of  $4k\Omega$  per anode winding, to a  $15\Omega$  secondary.

#### Testing the Main Chassis

To conduct tests, connect the mains supply to the power and output chassis by coupling direct to the mains transformer primary with a temporary lead.

#### Tests:

After all assembly and wiring has been completed, double check all connections with the circuit diagrams, making sure that no earth faults exist on the h.t.+ rail.

Connect a loudspeaker across the output terminals, insert all valves, making sure to clip on the

807 top caps, and switch on.

Check the h.t. voltage, which should be around 450 to 470 volts above chassis. If on warming up a loud howl is heard, switch off and reverse the negative feedback lead and earth connection to the speaker outlet.

When operating correctly, there should be no background noise heard, apart from just a faint "liveness" in the speaker. Do not touch the grid input to the EF86, as the resulting intense hum generated may damage the speaker.

If further tests are required, a crystal gramophone pick-up may be coupled to the valve (via a

volume control) for actual sound tests.

#### Do's AND DON'TS:

On no account should the amplifier be switched on without having a loudspeaker in circuit. Failure to observe this may destroy the output transformer. If special tests are required without a speaker being operated, then a  $15\Omega$  20W resistor must be wired across the output transformer secondary as a dumny load.

The voltages present (both the mains and the 450V h.t.), are without doubt LETHAL, and the constructor is advised to take great care when running the unit whilst out of its cabinet. In particular keep well away from the 807 top caps. High peak voltages of many thousands are present here when a signal is present, and severe burns can be had if they are accidentally touched during use.

The next part to be described will be the pre-

amplifier section.

#### The Pre-amplifier Unit

The pre-amplifier is the most important and critical section of the whole equipment as regards construction and wiring. Poor components or badly arranged wiring can cause untold trouble, such as pronounced hum. crackling and various noises which may take considerable pains to stop.

The inputs of the pre-amplifier are sensitive to about 4mV for a full 30W output, so it will be appreciated that care is needed to keep all noise levels well below this level by at least 40dB.

The worst offender usually in home constructed audio equipment is hum. Special care has been taken to keep this down to a very low level, and providing the instructions given are faithfully followed, the hum present should be negligible.

The circuit diagram is given in Fig 4, and before the construction is commenced. a description of the circuit operation will be given to enable a fuller understanding of the principles involved to be tied up with the practical circuit layout.

#### The Circuit

On the channel I (normal amplification), the two inputs are coupled to one half of an ECC83 twin triode valve (V6A), the amplified signal being taken via the tone control and volume control to the common outlet lead to the main amplifier unit. The resistive stoppers R20 and R21 in the input jack leads are to prevent interaction between two pick-ups when both are used on one channel.

The more complicated channel is the tremolo channel II. The inputs to this channel are coupled as above to the other half of V6, but in this case the amplified output at V6B anode is coupled to another triode V7A, which is the tremolo modula-

tor stage. Both halves of V7A and V7B are cathode coupled, and a low frequency signal is applied to the second triode from the phase shift oscillator V8.

This low frequency signal causes the cathode voltage on V7 to vary in sympathy, causing the gain of V7 to vary in direct proportion. The time constant of V7 cathode circuit is arranged so that it follows the high relative frequency of the audio signal, but allows the oscillator signal to be developed across the cathode resistor capacitor, R32, C23. At the output of V7A, there is both audio (now tremulant) plus some oscillator fundamental.

The oscillator content must be removed, otherwise a loud "thumping" will be heard in the output. This is accomplished by the high pass filter network C13, C14, C15 and R33, R34.

After filtering, the signal passes to the common outlet as for channel I, via its tone control VR2 or VR5. The variable resistor, VR1, is a preset gain control for V7, and by feeding back some of the output to the grid circuit, the overall gain of both V6 and V7 can be made identical to channel I.

An extra facility incorporated in this design and not often found in commercial amplifiers of this type, is a switch (S2) to remove completely the tremolo facility and make the response curve of the tremolo channel identical to that of channel I. The high pass network used in the tremolo circuit causes the audio response to be rather sharp, and although ideal for guitar use, with a microphone is rather too "toppy", thus this switch enables any channel to be used for high quality reproduction whenever so required.

V8 is the low frequency oscillator stage, and has a range of approximately 5 to 12c/s. The speed is controlled by VR7, and the depth or intensity controlled by VR6. A footswitch socket (SK5) is placed across VR5 and enables an instant on/off control of the tremolo effect remote from the amplifier. The 0·1µF capacitor C18 across this socket removes oscillator harmonics and also makes the switching electrically silent.

Note the rather high values of capacitance in the screen and cathode circuits of V8. This is, of course, for maximum efficiency at these very low

frequencies.

#### Screened Leads

The pre-amplifier is built up from two subassemblies, a small chassis and a control panel which are bolted together.

There is, of necessity, a large amount of screened lead in the construction of the pre-amplifier unit, and where screened leads are specified they must be used. All connections must be correctly soldered, and the practical layout shown followed as closely as possible.

Particular attention must be paid to the heater wiring in the pre-amplifier unit, all leads being tightly twisted and kept as far away from the signal circuits as possible. On no account is the heater wiring to be made an "earth return" circuit.

The chassis layout is given in Fig. 5 and the drilling details in Fig. 7. The layout and wiring of the associated control panel is given in Fig. 6.

#### Cabinet Construction

Figs. 8 to 11 and the drilling details in Fig. 7 give full details of the cabinet. It is suggested that the front panel (Fig. 8) be made first, as this fits inside the cabinet, and it is important that adequate clearance be made for this panel to fit aginst the lin. x lin. supports when the speaker fret material is in place.

After drilling and cutting out the speaker apertures, the speaker units should be laid on the rear of the panel, making sure they line up centrally over these holes, and the mounting holes can be marked. Countersink these holes on the front of the panel, and using countersunk bolts, firmly bolt down the speakers, preferably with

the cabinet has been covered with *Vynide* or similar material. The panel is then pushed home and fixed as above. Cover the sides and bottom runner of the pre-amplifier cut-out.

In the connection of the cabinet, the two vertical dimensions in Fig. 8, 8½in. and 10½in. were incorrectly printed on a number of Blueprints as

81 in and 113 in.

When covering is completed, make the hardboard back as shown in Fig. 10, and drill and mount the power input attachments as per Fig 11. When finished, a coat of very dark wood stain gives the back a clean finish.

The top ventilation grills are made from ordinary metal loudspeaker grill material, cut the width of apertures, with a length some 2in. greater

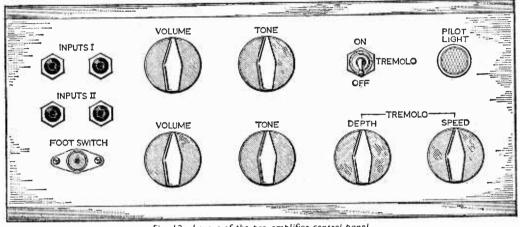


Fig. 12: Layout of the pre-amplifier control panel.

their terminals facing downwards. The next job is to cover the speaker panel front with suitable loudspeaker material such as "TYGAN". Close weave material is not recommended. Use an adhesive such as "EVOSTICK", spreading enough on the panel to produce a thin film (more will creep through the material) and place the material centrally on the panel. Allow about an inch overlap to the back, and keep tension on the edges of the material until dry. Then glue the edges down, removing any overlap at the corners of the panel with a sharp knife when the glue has thoroughly dried.

The remainder of the cabinet construction is not really difficult, apart from possibly the cable stowage compartment. This is a 3-ply box mounted on the cabinet floor on the right hand rear side. All joints should be glued and pinned, a piece of wood. 4in, by 6in, glued to the speaker panel rear makes an easy mounting for the side and top of this compartment. A door is made for the front of this compartment, hinged at the bottom, with a door catch fastener at the top. A small supboard knob completes the job.

Incidentally, the speaker panel may be screwed to the lin. x lin. supports, or may alternatively be glued and pinned. The last method gives the best visual effect as no screw heads are visible.

The panel should not be fixed until the rest of

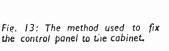
than these openings. Bend one edge of the metal inwards for lin, and screw to the cabinet side, then bend the other end to fit into the hole correctly. Do not be frightened to bend the material—it is

easily straightened. This last edge is then screwed to the preamplifier cut-out side pieces. This operation is quite "fiddly" but once done need never be touched again.

#### Installing Amplifiers

The two loudspeakers must be of the heavy duty type. Several manufacturers produce speaker units specially designed for guitar amplifiers. Both speakers should be 12in. diameter, have 15Ω speech coils and be rated for 20 to 25W power handling capacity.

The first job here is to connect the speaker wiring, and to phase the speakers themselves.



Temporarily couple a 3V battery to one speaker and note whether the cone moves in or out. Mark the speaker terminal connected to the positive battery pole. Now, repeat the procedure on the second speaker, making sure it moves in the same direction as the first, and again mark the terminal which has the battery positive on it. Wire both speakers in parallel, ensuring the marked terminals are coupled together, and test finally with the battery again. Both speaker cones should move together in the same direction.

Place the power amplifier unit in the bottom of the cabinet, with the mains transformer roughly in the centre below the carrying handle. Check the cabinet for carrying balance, and alter the unit until the centre of gravity is as near the centre as

practical.

Screw down the chassis mounting feet. Run the mains feed to the hardboard back and connect to the fuse and on/off switch there. Leave about 3ft. of flex between the two so the back can be removed and taken out of the way when servicing. Connect the loudspeaker leads to the outlet strip on the chassis.

After giving the completed pre-amplifier control panel a coat of paint (black gloss is suggested), place the knobs in position and slide the unit in place in the top cabinet cut-out. Screw down securely, and plug the flying lead into the main chassis socket. Make certain that the leads are well away from the power valves, and if necessary cleat to cabinet sides.

At this stage leave the back of the cabinet open to enable final adjustments to be made.

#### Final Tests

Turn gain controls to OFF and switch on. There should be hardly any noise level under these conditions, if there is, suspect a fault condition.

Make sure SI is in the NORMAL position, and slowly turn channel II volume up. At maximum a fairly high noise level will be evident—mostly hiss with some hum. This is normal as the inputs are wide open. Shorting one input jack out should remove all the hum content.

Repeat on channel I, checking that tone controls

operate.

If the noise level of channel II is far greater than channel I, adjust VR1 carefully (with S1 in tremolo position) until noise levels are indentical.

If possible, couple a signal source, such as a radio set, to one input jack via a separate volume control to avoid overloading, and check the amplifier for power output and quality. Keep the input signal very low by adjusting the separate volume control, using the main amplifier controls for level adjustment.

The tremolo controls can be tried on this signal, and as there may be some snags here, some hints are given for curing any slight troubles encoun-

tered.

1 Tremolo satisfactory, but some "thumping" when depth control full: place additional  $100k\Omega$  resistor across R33, increase value of C18 to  $0.2\mu$ F.

2 Tremolo depth satisfactory, but oscillator stops towards low end of speed range: check C24, C19 for leakage, change V8, alter R39 to 1MΩ If possible test the equipment with a guitar and

make sure the gain of channel II is identical to channel I by adjusting VR1.

#### Fault Finding

It is quite possible some slight faults may exist after completion, and some common faults and

possible cures are listed below.

Hum: Most likely induced from heater chain. If mains transformer has no centre tap, remove earth on one side of heater chain and connect "humdinger" control across the chain at mains transformer end, with centre slider to chassis. Adjust until hum is at its lowest level. A valve with a heater cathode short will give considerable hum as will faulty smoothing capacitors.

DISTORTION: Obviously, distortion does set in at very high outputs, or if the input signal is overloading the pre-amplifier, but if it is present all the time at low signal levels, suspect instability.

Check that all grid stoppers are the correct value, and that all screened leads are fitted as specified. Metal screens over early valves are not essential, but the fitting of them may assist in removing instability; the ECC83 on the power chassis is worth a try in difficult cases. In some circumstances earthing the loudspeaker frames to chassis can remove awkward and often difficult to cure instability. Generally though, instability is caused by poor layout conditions, unscreened leads, etc., and if the layouts shown are closely followed, no trouble of this nature should occur.

Always ensure that the output valves have similar anode currents, although a difference between them of 5 to 10mA is not important. A large discrepancy between them can, however, cause low output power with severe distortion.

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# TEST GEAR accessories

## BY C. MACKAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1186 OF THE APRIL ISSUE

INHIS month, the construction of an amplifier probe will be discussed. Reference to the circuit diagram given in Fig. 12 will show that the amplifier is quite conventional.

The anode load of the EF91 valve (R4) has a rather lower value than usual (10.000 $\Omega$ ), but this considerably improves the high-frequency response. The cathode decoupling capacitor, C4, is itself shunted by another capacitor, C3, to improve the high frequency decoupling.

The grid leak resistor R1 has the rather high value of  $10M\Omega$ . This gives a very high input

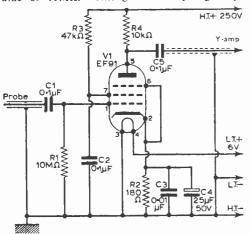


Fig. 12: The circuit of the amplifier probe unit.

impedance, but at the expense of low-frequency response. This is because, at low frequencies, the impedance of C1 becomes greater and since C1 and R1 form a potentiometer attenuator, the fraction of the input voltage which is applied to the grid is reduced whenever the frequency is reduced to the point where the impedance of Cl becomes comparable with that of R1. Thus, the response begins to drop off noticeably at about 40c/s.

#### HIGH-FREQUENCY RESPONSE

The high-frequency response is excellent, and is substantially flat ( $\pm 3dB$ ) up to at least 40kc/s. The probe will pass a 30kc/s square wave with negligible distortion. This makes this unit particularly valuable for the testing of audio equipment with square waves and an oscilloscope.

Also, the overall voltage gain of the unit is 15 times approximately (about 25 decibels). As a d.c. battery is used for the heater supply and no other mains voltage is present inside the screening can, there is no hum pick up, and thus any low level phenomena which are being investigated will not be masked by hum.

The gain provided by this unit is still useful at 4Mc/s, and no sine wave distortion was observed at this frequency. This top frequency limit is fixed by the capacitance across the output due to the self capacitance of the coaxial feeder cable to the oscilloscope or measuring instrument.

#### BUILDING THE PROBE

This probe unit was built inside an old i.f. transformer screening can, similar to that used last

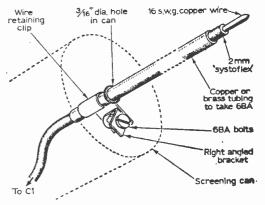


Fig. 13: Details of the probe assembly.

#### COMPONENTS LIST FOR AMPLIFIER PROBE UNIT

RI  $10M\Omega$  (may be reduced to  $1M\Omega$ )

R2 **180**Ω

R3 47,000  $\Omega$ 

**R4** 10,000 \(\Omega\)

CI  $0 \cdot l \mu F$  $0.1 \mu F$ 

0·01μF 25μF 50V

0· İμF EF91 Mullard

#### Miscellaneous:

One B7G valveholder. Screening can. Paxolin or printed circuit board. 2 yards of coaxial cable. 2 yards of 3-core cable (for power supply). Systoflex, nuts, bolts.

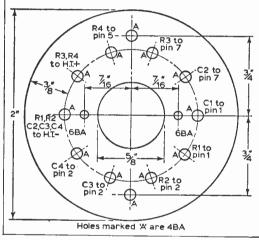


Fig. 15 (right): A suggested printed circuit layout for the

month for the cathode follower probe, and the actual probe section was made in exactly the same way. The reader is therefore referred to last month's issue for further details if those shown in Fig. 13 are inadequate.

The main wiring is again built on to a circular piece of paxolin suitably drilled as in Fig. 14a.

#### PRINTED CIRCUIT TECHNIQUE

This method of construction lends itself easily to the use of a printed circuit board, and a suggested pattern is given in Fig. 15 for those interested in using copper clad board.

Drilling of the etched circuit should be very carefully carried out, and all drilling should be done from the laminated (copper) side of the printed circuit board. All large holes should be first drilled with a small bit, and progressively larger bits should be used to enlarge the hole until it is the correct size.

The board should, on no account, be bent or subjected to any stress or strain as the laminated copper may crack minutely giving either an open circuit or a very noisy contact.

The connecting cables should be connected

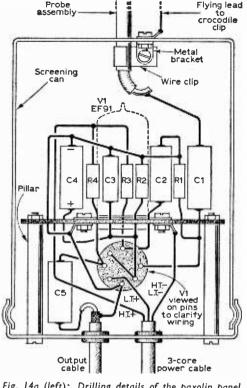
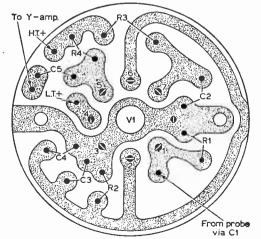


Fig. 14a (left): Drilling details of the paxolin panel for the amplifier probe.

Fig. 14b (above): Component layout and wiring inside the can.



directly to the printed circuit conductors. The whole unit is mounted within the screening can as shown in Fig. 14. No trouble was experienced with microphony, but in the event of such trouble

-continued on page 43

# UNIT CONSTRUCTION BOARDS

A MODERN METHOD OF "BREADBOARD" WIRING

BY R. R. SLANEY

ANY constructors, before finally assembling a circuit utilising transistors, prefer to build it temporarily in "breadboard" fashion in order to facilitate testing and experiment. This procedure has many advantages both for the beginner and the more experienced constructor, especially if it is desired to experiment with component values and circuit variations, apart from the basic need to determine whether the circuit as constructed will function correctly.

For the novice in particular, much disappointment and frustration can be avoided by following this method and much can be learned if the opportunity is taken of laying out the simpler circuits more in accordance with the theoretical rather than the space-saving necessities of the

practical diagram.

There are, however, certain disadvantages and in the writer's experience these have been mainly due to the difficulties of providing convenient and satisfactory anchorage points for components and point-to-point connections. On-the-spot improvisations with whatever materials are handy tend to make for untidy work and unnecessary complications in layout and create conditions in which mistakes can easily be made.

#### Pre-drilled Insulating Board

It was considerations such as these that led the writer to experiment with the idea of unit

GBA bolts fitted with double solder tags

Veroboard covered with holes

Rubber or Plastic feet

Fig. 1: The basic construction board with the positive and negative rails supports at each corner.

construction boards. In the first instance experimental boards were made from laminated plastic sheets (paxolin) obtained on the surplus market. Whilst these were satisfactory in every way their preparation involved a considerable amount of drilling. It is therefore suggested that Verohoard is used instead. As readers are no doubt aware this is a pre-drilled insulating board obtainable in a variety of sizes. The existing holes can easily be enlarged as required with a 6B.A. clearance drill.

The construction boards are simply prepared. The four corner holes are enlarged to take 6 B.A. holts to which double solder tags are fitted. These bolts also hold in place four small rubber feet to allow components and wiring to be taken beneath the board of required, see Fig. 1. Heavy gauge wire is soldered lengthways between each pair of bolts to serve as positive and negative rails, although the position of these can be varied to suit any particular layout.

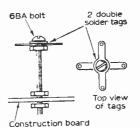


Fig. 2: The construction of a component anchorage point.

#### Anchorage Points

For supporting the smaller components and providing anchorage points, a number of \$\frac{1}{2}\text{in}\$, 6B.A. bolts should be prepared by fitting two double solder tags crosswise under the head, thus providing a four-way connecting point, see Fig. 2. A nut can also be run a short way up each bolt which is then ready for fixing

to the board wherever it is needed by the addition of one nut, the appropriate hole or holes having

been enlarged as described.

To allow transistors to be interchanged or different types to be tried experimentally in circuits, the small plastic holders now available are used. These are mounted on a paxolin bracket as shown in Fig. 3. Thin paxolin sheet &in. thick is used and each holder requires a piece approximately \$\frac{1}{4}\text{in.} \times \frac{1}{14}\text{in.} \text{ The hole for the holder is cut

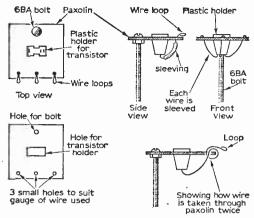


Fig. 3: Diagrams to illustrate the construction of transistor mounts, using plastic holders.

out with a penknife. It is better to start with a piece of paxolin somewhat larger than the finished size and cut it down afterwards. The plastic holder can either be glued or held in place with the metal clip provided.

To each of the three tags on the plastic holder a short length of tinned wire is soldered with a piece of sleeving Fig. 4: A transistor holder for mounting directly into the construction board.



as shown in the diagram (Fig. 3). This is then taken up through one of the small holes previously made in the paxolin bracket, over the edge and up through the hole again to provide a firm anchor-

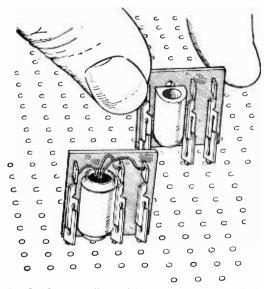


Fig. 5: Commercially available transistor mounts which plug into special sockets.

age. The end of each piece of wire is terminated in a flat loop. All soldered connections are made to these loops which, in effect, are solder tags.

#### Mountings for Transistors

For those who prefer to solder transistors directly into the circuit the *Lektrokit* mounting in moulded p.v.c. is available. These holders make a push fit into the standard *Veroboard* holes, see Fig. 4. Alternatively a rather more professional and expensive design which plugs into sockets inserted into the *Veroboard* holes is available. As

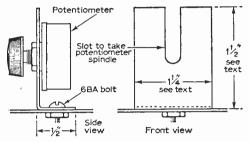


Fig. 6: Details of a suitable potentiometer mounting bracket.

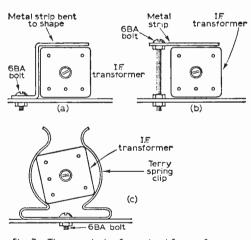


Fig. 7: Three methods of securing i.f. transformers.

will be seen from the illustration (Fig. 5) a diode holder is also available.

Simple brackets for mounting standard potentiometers can be made from aluminium as shown in Fig. 6. If necessary the upright member can be made longer to accommodate two potentiometers one above the other. The same brackets can also be used for standard 365pF tuning capacitors if suitable holes are drilled to enable the capacitor to be bolted to the bracket. If separate brackets are made for each of these components the one intended for potentiometers need be only \$\frac{1}{2}\$ in. wide.

Coils, inter-stage and output transformers are bolted direct to the board, one bolt usually sufficing. Transformers which cannot be bolted direct can be fixed to the board using one of the

simple brackets described below.

Fig. 7a illustrates a bracket for securing i.f. transformers to the board. It will be noted that the transformers lie on their sides. This method permits of access to the pins for soldering and to the core for adjustments. An alternative bracket is shown in Fig. 7b. With a longer bolt the horizontal member can be adjusted up or down to accommodate different sizes of transformers. A further and effective alternative, using a Terry clip. is shown in Fig. 7c.

#### Clips for Rod Aerials

Terry clips, which are available in a comprehensive range of sizes, make excellent holders for varying shapes and sizes of ferrite rod aerials. The clips may be bolted direct to the board in any convenient position or stood off from the edge as shown in Fig. 8.

To complete the list of basic accessories a small but indispensable item is the soldering pin made by Lektrokit. These are used for simple point-to-point connections. Made of metal, they are ½in. tapered pins which will push securely into the standard Veroboard holes wherever they may be needed. One of these pins, greatly enlarged, is

shown in Fig. 9a.

With regard to the construction boards themselves, their size will depend, of course, on individual requirements and some constructors may prefer to make several of different sizes. For others it may be a better plan to use boards of one standard size which can, if required, be joined to one another. This can be done quite simply

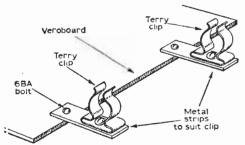


Fig. 8: A method of mounting ferrite rod derials using Terry clips.

with two short metal strips drilled to take 6B.A. bolts. The boards are then butted together as shown in Fig. 10. There is, of course, no reason why the boards should not be joined simply by overlapping one edge with another and bolting through. It is suggested that the two sides of each board should be clearly and permanently marked "positive" and "negative".

#### Copper Bonded Board

It will no doubt be of interest to many readers to know that *Verohoard* is also available with a series of copper strips bonded to it. Thus when a prototype circuit has been built and tested on a construction board it can be reduced to a more permanent and compact form, using the copper bonded *Verohoard* as a type of printed circuit. The lengths of copper strip can easily be broken

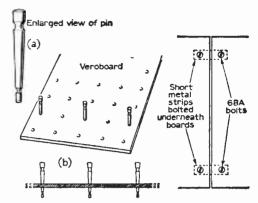


Fig. 9 (left): The soldering pins made specifically to fix into Veroboard.

Fig. 10 (right): The method of joining two construction boards.

to isolate one part of the strip from another by

lightly drilling through.

Finally, in order to protect transistors from the possibly disastrous results of applying incorrect battery polarity during experiments the following procedure is suggested. A miniature jack plug and socket should be fitted with red and black flying leads, ensuring that when connected together the red goes to red. All that is then required is for the plug to be soldered direct to the circuit and the socket to the battery, correct polarity being observed in both cases. Once this is done complete protection is ensured, coupled with an effective and simple switching arrangement.

## TEST GEAR ACCESSORIES

—continued from page 40

occurring, a special, antimicrophonic B7G type valveholder should be used.

#### POWER SUPPLY

The power supply required by this unit is: 250V d.c. at 15mA max. 6.3V at 0.3A.

The power unit described last month for use with the cathode follower probe is perfectly suitable for use with the amplifier probe. The no-hum advantage obtained by using a 6V battery for the heater supply is thought to be very necessary, as this completely eliminates the possibility of hum being introduced into the output.

#### COOLING THE UNIT

Several 4in, diameter holes should be drilled in the side of the screening can so that the valve can be well ventilated, and it should be found that the unit does not become unduly warm during opera-

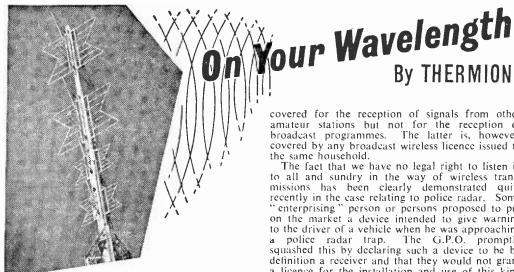
The output cable should be of the screened, coaxial type, and the power cable should be well

insulated

This unit will work efficiently for long periods, and no trouble should be encountered in its operation.

Next Month Part 5

By THERMION



THE expression "free as the air" conjures up a sense of absolute freedom perhaps more vividly than any other phrase. It is, of course, a quite fanciful image as far as we highly organised humans are concerned. How often do we learn to our amazement, and perhaps disgust, that some particular seemingly innocent activity is in fact agin the law"?

This apart I don't doubt that there are those who would consider this a singularly inappropriate choice of words to signify freedom and liberty as they recall how their hopes of using the air wireless-wise have been balked by officialdom. Our "Letters to the Editor" page certainly has on occasions borne witness to the frustrations experienced by those unable for some reason or another to obtain the requisite licence to radiate electromagnetic waves in free space.

The medium through which radio waves are propagated may indeed be "free" in the unconfined sense, but the use of this medium for transmission or reception is at all times subject to governmental sanction. Or, to put it more plainly, you cannot legally operate any kind of wireless transmitter or receiver unless you hold the appropriate licence issued by the authority concerned, this being in the U.K. the Postmaster-General.

#### Receiving Licences

I imagine that to many the position regarding wireless licences is rather perplexing. This may be particularly so on the receiving side, where it is impossible or impractical to enforce any restriction on the tuning range of receiving apparatus in the possession of private individuals. The Broadcast Receiving Licence permits one to install and operate equipment for the sole or prime purpose of receiving matter sent from authorised broadcasting stations for general reception and from licensed amateur stations, as you can verify by looking at your licence. The holder of an Amateur Transmitting Licence is automatically

covered for the reception of signals from other amateur stations but not for the reception of broadcast programmes. The latter is, however, covered by any broadcast wireless licence issued to the same household.

The fact that we have no legal right to listen in to all and sundry in the way of wireless transmissions has been clearly demonstrated quite recently in the case relating to police radar. Some "enterprising" person or persons proposed to put on the market a device intended to give warning to the driver of a vehicle when he was approaching a police radar trap. The G.P.O. promptly squashed this by declaring such a device to be by definition a receiver and that they would not grant a licence for the installation and use of this kind

An interesting point arises concerning communications receivers. These are presumably covered in the normal way by a broadcast receiving licence. although most of the receiver coverage might be outside the normal broadcasting bands. Supposing a communications receiver happens to have a range covering, let us say, this police radar, how can its use be prevented?

The answer is, I suspect, that the act of tuning in and listening to a non-broadcast transmission is not in itself an offence but that an offence would be committed immediately any use was made of information gleaned in this manner. It is obviously impossible to prevent people tuning in to any frequency, but the law does jump down heavily whenever anyone is discovered making use of intercepted signals and this includes the passing on to a third party of details of such transmissions.

This would then explain the ban on the antiradar device since the sole purpose of this device was to make use of the information (i.e. radar signals) received.

Mention of cars brings to mind the questions that often arise regarding licences for car radios.

A separate licence (that is, additional to the household licence) is needed if the radio makes use of the car battery—this is regardless of whether the receiver is a permanent installation or not. The type of aerial used does not enter into the question. One of our readers inquired if it would be in order to couple a miniature transistor receiver to an audio amplifier and loudspeaker unit installed in the car, the a.f. amplifier only being powered from the car battery. I understand that the Post Office rule that such an arrangement would definitely require a separate licence. Anyhow a brave

Any other bright suggestions, legal, of course? The ingenuity of some of our readers often fills me with admiration but I am afraid that in a battle of wits the odds are very much on the G.P.O.

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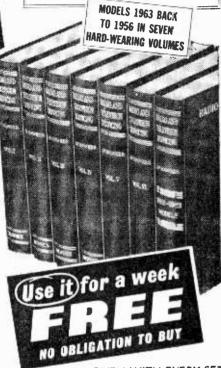
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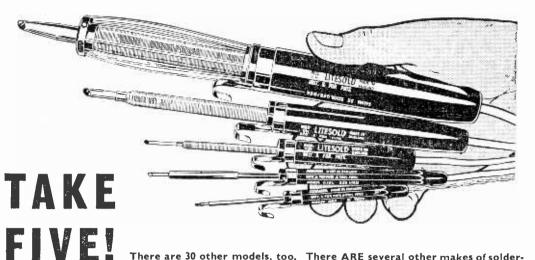
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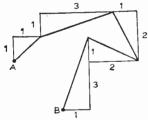
AVING by now got some idea of what operator "j" is, let us see the kind of things we can do with it, especially with regard to cir-

cuit theory problems.

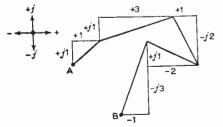
When we first learnt arithmetic at school, we were taught that 1+1=2. Maybe it always does in the mathematics of things, but not in the mathematics of measurement. One foot forwards plus one foot backwards doesn't equal two feet in any direction. Neither does one foot up plus one foot across. This is where our labels, plus and minus, and j, come in. They are the symbols for direction, just as ordinary numbers are symbols for size.

Suppose you had to work out the distance between A and B in the sketch below. Would you find it easy

or difficult?



Let us draw the figure again, and use labels in front of all the sizes to indicate their direction. To the right is +; to the left is -; up is +j; and down is -j. We now have a sketch like this:



To find the distance from A to B we simply add all the numbers together, like this:

$$\begin{array}{r}
+1+j1 \\
+3+j1 \\
+1-j2 \\
-2+j1 \\
-1-j3
\end{array}$$
Total  $+2-j2$ 

Following on the general introduction given in last month's article, this final article shows how the "j" notation can be applied to problems relating to a.c. circuit theory.

## By Roy Hartkopf

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1194 OF THE APRIL ISSUE

We have written j1 instead of "j" to make it clearer. Actually 1j or j1 is exactly the same thing as j.

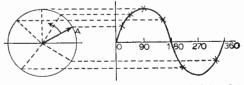
So the distance from A to B is two units to the right plus two units down. Simple, isn't it? You can check the result by drawing it on a piece of graph paper.

These double-barrelled quantities, which have direction as well as distance, are called vectors, and what we have just been doing is an example of vector aigebra.

So far was have been talking about distances and directions in space, on a flat surface. But we can also have—though it sounds Irish—different "directions" in time. And it is here that the j notation is particularly useful to radio and electrical engineers.

#### The rotating vector

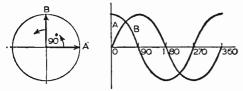
We al! have a fair idea of what one cycle of a sine wave looks like, and we also know that this cycle repeats over and over again. Many will remember that it is called a sine wave because it can be shown to be the projection of a rotating line or rotating vector. The sketch below illustrates how this comes to be so.



The sine wave is really a picture of the height of the point A above or below the base line as the rotating line is swung round like the hand of a clock. When it has swung round 90° and is at right angles to the base line, the point A is as high as it can go. At 180° it is level again with the base line. At 270° it is at its lowest position, and at 360° it is back where it started from, having completed one cycle.

Suppose we have a second sine wave, of the same frequency but 90° out of phase with the first. The diagram below shows how these two waves could be represented by two rotating lines, 90° apart from each

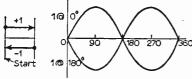
other, the one chasing the other like the wooden horses on a merry-go-round.



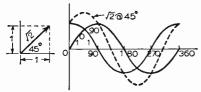
If we get this picture clearly in our minds we can begin to see where the "90° out of phase" fits in.

As far as the actual waves are concerned, it would be more correct to say they were a quarter of a cycle out of phase. But it is customary to talk about degrees out of phase, and it is a handy way so long as we remember they really represent fractions of a cycle, and not an actual angle.

We have already mentioned that in the mathematics of measurement, one plus one does not necessarily make two at all. The following sketches show how this happens both in ordinary vectors and in sine waves.



In the first case, when the directions are opposite they cancel out because they represent equal amounts in opposite directions. Another way of putting it would be to say that one line has been swung through 180°. And exactly the same thing happens with the sine waves. At each instant the one is equal and in the "opposite direction" to the other, they are 180° out of phase and so they cancel out. Let us take a second case where the vectors and the sine waves are 90° apart. They look like this:

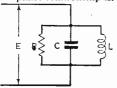


Here we find that the two vectors at right angles give us a resultant which is  $\sqrt{2}$  or 1.4 units long at an angle of 45°. And if we plot the two sine waves and add them we will get exactly the same effect, another sine wave 1.4 times the amplitude and 45° out of phase with the two original waves.

All this boils down to the fact that we can treat sine waves in exactly the same way as we can treat distances and directions; that is label them with plus, or minus, or j, to indicate if and when they are out of phase, and just what their phase relationship is.

#### R, C and L in parallel

Let us take a case where we have a resistor, capainductor in and parallel across an alternating voltage E.



We know that the impedance of the resistor is R, the impedance of the capacitor is:

and the impedance of the inductor is  $2\pi fL$ .

By Ohm's Law:

$$I = \frac{E}{R} \text{ so } I_R = \frac{E}{R}, I_C = \frac{1}{2\pi fC} = 2\pi fCE,$$
and 
$$I_2 = \frac{E}{2\pi fL}$$

We also know that the capacitive current is leading by 90° on the resistive current and the inductive current is lagging by 90°.

So we can draw a diagram of our currents like this, putting the appropriate label in front of them.



In working with j there is one fact which we must always remember for it crops up time and time again in calculations. This is that, since  $j^2 = -1$ , we can

$$-\frac{j^2}{i}$$
, which is  $-\frac{-1}{j}$ , which is  $+\frac{1}{j}$ . So  $\frac{1}{j}$  is equal to  $-j$ , and also j is equal to  $-\frac{1}{j}$ .

Because of this we can write our inductive current, which is:

$$-j\frac{E}{2\pi fL} as + \frac{E}{j2\pi fL}.$$

It is exactly the same thing.

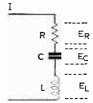
So, taking into account our j notation, the inductive impedance is  $j2\pi fL$  and the capacitive impedance is  $\frac{1}{j2\pi fC}$ , or if we prefer it,  $-j\frac{1}{2\pi fC}$ 

$$\frac{1}{i2\pi fC}$$
, or if we prefer it,  $-j\frac{1}{2\pi fC}$ 

which again is exactly the same thing.

#### A Series Circuit

Let us see if these j labels automatically give us a sensible result in a series circuit containing R, C and L.



In this case, since the current can't disappear into thin air, the same current must flow through the three. Here we use Ohm's Law in the form E=1R,

to find the voltages across the three impedances. Thus 
$$E_R{=}1R$$
,  $E_C{=}-j\frac{1}{2\pi fC}$ ,  $E_L{=}j2\pi fL1$ 

So  $E_R$  is plain,  $E_C$  has a-j label, and  $E_L$  has a+j label. The diagram would look like this.

E = j2 MfLI

At first sight things seem to be back to front. But if we look carefully we see it is the inductive voltage which is leading and the capacitive voltage which is lagging. This makes sense because if the inductive current is 90° behind the voltage, then the voltage is 90° ahead of the current. A similar argument applies to the capacity.

As a final example of what we can do with j notation let us consider the circuit shown below. It consists of resistance and capacity in parallel with resis-

tance and inductance.



The impedance of the resistor—capacitor arm is 
$$Z_{R_1-C}=R_1+\frac{1}{j2\pi fC}\left(\text{ or }R_1-j\frac{1}{2\pi fC}\right)$$

 $Z_{R_2-L} = R_2 + i2 \pi f L$ 

As most of us know, the formula for two impedances in parallel is:

$$Z_{\text{total}} = \frac{Z_1 \times Z_2}{Z_1 + Z_2}$$

As most of us know, the formula for two impedant in parallel is: 
$$\frac{1}{Z_{\text{total}}} = \frac{1}{Z_{1}} + \frac{1}{Z_{2}}$$
Which equals 
$$\frac{Z_{1} + Z_{2}}{Z_{1} \times Z_{1}}$$
And turning it upside down we have: 
$$Z_{\text{total}} = \frac{Z_{1} \times Z_{2}}{Z_{1} + Z_{2}}$$
Applying this directly to our case, we have, 
$$\left(R_{1} + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC}\right) \times \left(R_{2} + j2\pi fL\right)$$

$$Z_{\text{total}} = \frac{\left(R_{1} + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC}\right) \times \left(R_{2} + j2\pi fL\right)}{R_{1} + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC}}$$
Normally this would be the answer; and if we stituted numbers it would simplify down to a num

Normally this would be the answer; and if we suhstituted numbers it would simplify down to a number plus (or minus) another number with a j label in front of it. (If it was pure resistance the i part would be zero and if it was purely inductance or capacitance the other part would be zero.)

In the case of our circuit we can simplify the formula if we make the two resistors equal. The formula now

looks like this:

$$Z_{total} = \frac{\left(R + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC}\right) \times \left(R + j2\pi fL\right)}{2R + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC} + j2\pi fL}$$

Multiplying out the top we get:  $R^{2} + j2\pi fLR + \frac{R}{j2\pi fC} + \frac{j2\pi fL}{j2\pi fC}$   $2R + \frac{1}{j2\pi fC} + j2\pi fL$ 

Rearranging the formula we get:

The formula we get:
$$\frac{L}{C} + R^2 + j2\pi f L R + \frac{R}{j2\pi f C}$$

$$2R + j2\pi f L + \frac{1}{j2\pi f C}$$
It is at this we see that, except for

Looking at this we see that, except for the term — in the top line, there is a striking similarity between Cthe top and bottom lines. If we make  $\frac{L}{C}$  equal to  $R^a$ the formula looks like this.

$$Z_{\text{total}} = \frac{R^2 + R^2 + j2\pi f L R + \frac{R}{j2\pi f C}}{2R + j2\pi f L R + \frac{1}{j2\pi f C}}$$

$$= \frac{2R^2 + j2\pi f L R + \frac{R}{j2\pi f C}}{2R + j2\pi f L + \frac{1}{j2\pi f C}}$$

$$= \frac{RX\left(2R + j2\pi f L + \frac{1}{j2\pi f C}\right)}{2R + j2\pi f L + \frac{1}{j2\pi f C}}$$

So we have the very interesting result that in this circuit, if the two resistors are equal and the ratio of

— is made equal to  $R^2$ , the circuit behaves like **a** simple resistance regardless of whatever the frequency may be. This example shows how the use of j notation can help us to see new possibilities in

circuits as well as making practical calculations easier. Now we should be in business—the i business. If in future we read an article splattered with j's we shouldn't feel they represent some mathematical magic that we'll never be able to understand. Even if the detailed workings are too involved to follow, at least we'll have a solid general idea of what it's about. And this after all is the important aspect of understanding.

# Medium Wave Aerial Data

# COIL DESIGN DETAILS FOR FERRITE ROD AERIALS By RICHARD MARSH

T is well known that a ferrite rod with a suitable coil makes a very good aerial for small portable receivers. A great feature is their compactness coupled with efficiency.

The design of a suitable coil depends on complicated formulae but the average amateur need not be put off by this. Instead of using formulae the accompanying graph may be used for quickly deciding upon a suitable coil.

This graph relates to a standard round ferrite rod 30 in. diameter, 8in. long. The coil must be close-wound on a low-loss former but about six layers of good, clean writing paper will do (with a

band with a 500pF variable capacitor and similarly for a 16-turn coil placed 0.65in, from the end of the rod.

(2) With a 300pF variable capacitor the centre of a 20-turn coil would be about 0.8in, from the end of the rod.

(3) With a 40pF variable trimmer used as a tuning capacitor coils of 60 or 70 turns could be used with their centres 1in. or 0.65in, respectively from the end of the rod.

(4) Push-button tuning. With, say, a 60-turn coil about 1in, from the end of the rod select a number of capacitors with a suitable trimmer for



few drops of gum in the last three layers to hold it together). Cover the outside with Durafix and wind on the wire, using Litz or bunched conductor wire

Each curve on the graph is for a different number of turns from 10 to 100. A coil may occupy any position on the rod from the middle right out to the end. The distance "L" is the distance between the middle of the coil and the end of the rod. Note that the inductance of any coil may be reduced to almost half its maximum value by sliding it right to the end of the rod. This provides some useful adjustment that could enable a trimming capacitor to be omitted in some instances.

On the right there is a vertical scale with pairs of numbers at various intervals. These pairs of numbers represent the range of total capacitance required to provide tuning over the whole medium wave band (taken as 550kc/s to 1.500kc/s) for each coil. The way to use this scale is best illustrated with a number of examples thus:

(1) Suppose we have available a 500pF tuning capacitor. Take a horizontal line from 500 in the right-hand scale and note that it crosses the 20-turn coil and the 16-turn coil lines at points corresponding to distances 0:265in, and 0:65in, respectively. This means that a 20-turn coil placed so that its centre is 0:265in, from the end of the ferrite rod may be turned over the whole of the medium wave

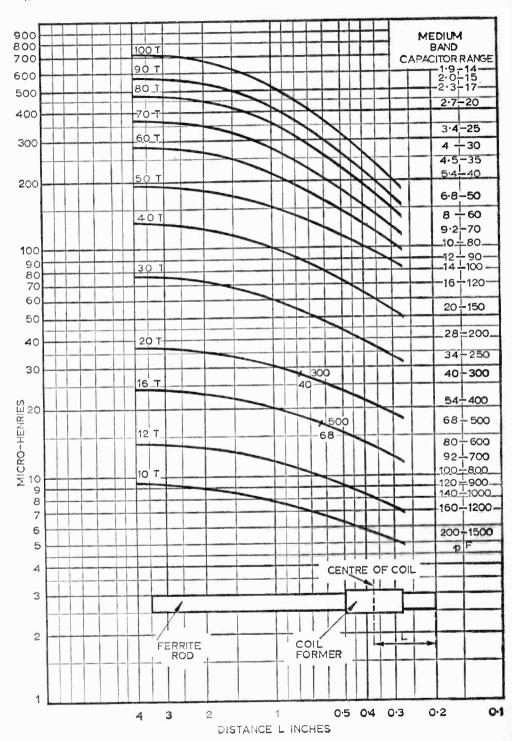
each and a suitable low-loss wafer or push-button switch with as many positions as needed for the stations chosen. Start with one station and adjust the coil position for best results, then fix the coil in that position with Durafix, etc., and for other stations adjust the capacitors.

The rod used is one commercially available and allowances must be made for possible variations of performance from one rod to another and also for the capacitance of the circuit. Rather than push a coil right to the very end of its rod it would be better to remove one or two turns and have it some ½in, or more further on the rod.

The Q of all co.ls tested was good. The 100-turn coil had the highest value, 262. The 50, 20 and 10 turn coils had 260, 202 and 130 respectively. These values for Q vary slightly with coil position and are a maximum with the coil centres in the region lin. to 14 in. from the end of the rod.

#### Other Diameter Rods

As previously stated, this graph is directly applicable to a  $\frac{6}{32}$  in, diameter ferrite rod. Other rods in common use have diameters of  $\frac{1}{4}$  in,  $\frac{6}{36}$  in, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. When using any of these rods the data obtained from the graph should be considered as subject to slight modification. However, the optimum position for the coil will be readily ascertained when receiver alignment is performed.





THIS receiver is mains operated, and is constructed in an easily obtainable aluminium case measuring 12in. x 7in. x 3in., a small speaker being included. It operates from a telescopic aerial, and can thus be used anywhere where mains are available. An external aerial can be used in the normal way, though very good results are achieved with the telescopic aerial.

The receiver has six wavebands, covering medium waves, shore and shipping, amateur and short waves. The band coverage is approxi-

mately as follows:

Band –	Frequency	Wavelength
1	30-20Mc/s	10-15 metres
2	21-10Mc/s	14-30 metres
3	10-4.5Mc/s	30—65 metres
4	4·5—2Mc/s	65-150 metres
5	2-0.9 Mc/s	150-330 metres
6	900-450kc/s	330—650 metres

Reference to the circuit diagram (Fig. 1) shows that a single coil is used for each band. There is thus no trimming or aligning whatever to be performed, and any slight changes in the coils will have no effect on efficiency.

#### Circuit Description

Regeneration is used in the detector stage (V2), and this results in very high sensitivity. The r.f. stage is untuned, and serves to isolate the aerial, to avoid troublesome hand-capacity effects. VC1 is the band-setting capacitor, while VC2 is used for fine tuning. This arrangement has the effect of dividing each waveband into ten or more smaller bands, each of which is "spread" by VC2, thus allowing easy tuning.

allowing easy tuning.

The third valve, V3, provides two stages of audio amplification, giving sufficient volume for the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. speaker. An external speaker can be used if a self contained, portable set is not required. V4

is the usual full-wave h.t. rectifier.

#### Latitude in Component Values

There is some latitude in component values, so items to hand may be fitted in some cases, for example: the  $0.05\mu F$  by-pass capacitors may be  $0.1\mu F$ ; VR1 may be  $20k\Omega$  or  $25k\Omega$ ; VR2 may be  $50k\Omega$  with R5  $47k\Omega$  or  $68k\Omega$ ; or VR2 may be  $200k\Omega$ , with R5  $220k\Omega$ : VR3 may be  $0.5M\Omega$ . VR3 incorporates the mains on/off switch, but this could be in VR1 and VR2. or a separate toggle switch could be employed. C11 may be  $50\mu F$ ; C13 may be  $32\mu F$ ; C13 and C14 may be separate components, instead of a twin capacitor, and C7 may equally well be  $8\mu F$ . C9 and C10 must be mica, or good quality high voltage paper, as leakage here will upset the  $12\Delta T7$  grid bias values C12 may be a large at  $0.01\mu F$ .

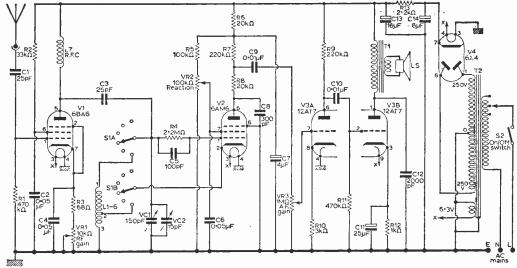


Fig. 1: The circuit. For simplicity only one coil is represented.

#### Metal Cabinet

The universal chassis box consists of separate cut and shaped items, which are bolted together. The valveholders and most parts are assembled on a 12in. x 3in. extra side, which acts as the chassis. It is most convenient to wire this up first, before adding the panel.

When the chassis itself has been wired, the panel is attached by three 6BA bolts. The variable capacitors, speaker, wavechange switch and potentiometers can then be wired. The box side carrying the telescopic aerial is then added. The top, bottom, remaining sides, and back, are only fitted after testing the receiver.

The small speaker is placed to clear the mains transformer, which must be fairly small in size. A

disc of perforated zinc or expanded metal 5½in, in diameter, backed by gauze, is cemented to the cabinet front, over the small speaker aperture, to match the tuning scales.

No bolts are used in the cabinet bottom, as these would prevent the receiver standing level. The 7 x 3in, sides fit outside the 12 x 3in, top and bottom, so that the 12 x 3in, chassis is accommodated. Where sides and chassis meet, V-shaped pieces are cut from the side flanges, to clear the chassis flanges. Cabinet sides and chassis flanges are bolted together.

All the large holes should be cut before mounting any parts. If small holes are drilled later, care is needed to keep metal fragments out of the switch, variable capacitors, and valveholders.

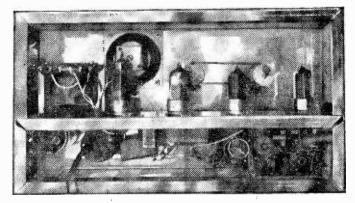
		COM	PONENTS LIST
Resist	ors:		C10 0·01μF mica
RI	470kΩ	R8 20kΩ	CII 25μF electrolytic 25V
R2	$33k\Omega$	R9 220kΩ	C12 2000pF mica or ceramic
R3	68Ω	R10 3kΩ	C13 16μF electrolytic 350V
R4	2·2M Ω	R11 470kΩ	C14 8µF electrolytic 350V
R5	100kΩ	RI2 IkΩ	VCI 150pF air spaced variable
	20kΩ	R13 2·2kΩ	VC2 ISpF air spaced variable
R7	220kΩ	11.5	
147	All ±10% 1V	V carbon	Valves:
Potent	tiometers:	. ca. 5011	VI 6BA6 V3 I2AT7
	l0kΩ		V2 6AM6 V4 6X4
	100kΩ		B9A holder. Three B7G holders
	$IM\Omega$ , with sw	ritch (S2)	Miscellaneous:
Capac		(02)	LI to 6 See text
CI	25pF mica or	ceramic	L7 All wave r.f. choke
C2	0.05μF paper	coramic	TI Output transformer 45: I, or similar
C3	25pF mica or	ceramic	T2 Mains transformer; secondaries 250-0-
C4	0.05µF paper	cei aiiiic	250V 40μA; 6·3V I·5A
C5	100pF mica or	Ceramic	SI 2-pole, 6-way rotary
C6	0.05 pF paper	Coranne	LSI Loudspeaker 2½ in. dia., 2-3Ω
C7	4μF electrolyt	ic 350V	Universal chassis box 12in. x 7in, x 3in., with
Č8	300pF mica or		extra 12in, x 3in, side and extra 12in, x 7in, top
C9	0.01μF mica	ceranne	plate (Home Radio), Telescopic aerial.
٠,	o oraci filica		prace (1.0110 reason), releason acriair

There is no reason why the receiver should not be adjusted to suit any other metal case to hand. A wooden panel, or one of any kind of insulating material, is not recommended, unless it is backed by metal for screening purposes.

#### Wiring-up the Receiver

Fig. 2 shows the top of the chassis, and Fig. 3 is the underside. Heaters are wired first, the heater circuit wiring being against the chassis, and clear of grid leads. With V3, tags 4 and 5 are joined and taken to chassis.

All connections associated with V2 must be as short as possible. R4 and C5 should have very short leads to tag 1. C6 and C8 are earthed to a tag near V2. The same



An interior view of the finished receiver.

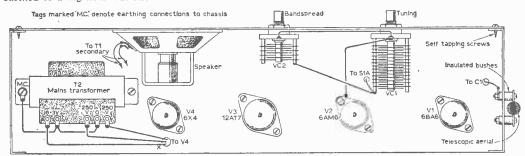


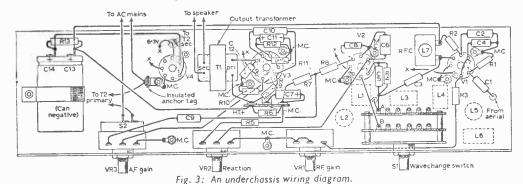
Fig. 2: The layout of the major components on the chassis.

bolt secures a tag on top of the chassis, and a lead goes directly from this tag to the moving plates tag of VC1, and from there to VC2. Switch leads must be short and direct, especially for bands 1 and 2.

The telescopic aerial is fixed with \(\frac{3}{4}\)in. 6BA bolts insulated from the metal cabinet by means of fibre

near wires carrying a.c.

If a small smoothing choke is to hand this can be used instead of R13. If the set is used in an earthed situation, a 3-core mains cord is preferable, the metal chassis being earthed to the large pin of a 3-pin plug. A low rating fuse can be inserted in



pillars and washers. If this type of aerial is not required, an insulated socket or terminal may be connected to C1.

The mains transformer and speaker leads pass through a hole in the chassis. An insulated tag forms an anchor point for the mains lead. Grid and anode leads must not be near each other, or 13A type plugs. If any tests are required, V1 may be eliminated by temporarily taking a short aerial to C3. This will allow the detector and a.f. stages to be checked.

Details of the Coils

Fig. 1 shows one coil only, but the coils for

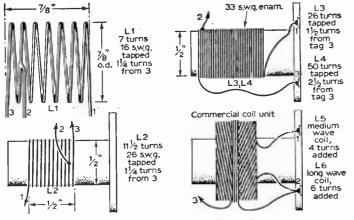


Fig. 4: Construction details of the coils.

other bands are connected in the same way, to consecutive tags on the switch. Medium wave coverage is useful for general listening, but band 6 may be omitted, if this is not required. The set is best tested with a single coil, then checked on other bands as the other coils are added.

Fig. 4 shows details of the coils, and with each the cathode tap 2 is very near the earthed end of the coil, 3. The exact position of this tap has an important effect. If the tapping is too near point 3, there will be insufficient regeneration. If the tapping is too far from point 3, oscillation will begin before V2 is providing anything like maximum gain. It may thus be worth while experimenting with the cathode taps, to suit the actual valve employed as a detector, though the tappings given below should generally be satisfactory.

The small coils are easily wound, as they have few turns. The larger coils, however, require many more turns, so can best be ready made, a few extra turns being added between points 2 and 3. Coupling or other unrequired windings should generally be removed, to avoid absorption, as the coils need only a single winding.

For range 1, 7 turns of 16s.w.g. wire are used, point 2 being  $1\frac{1}{4}$  turns from point 3. The coil is self supporting, with the shortest possible leads, and is  $\frac{7}{4}$  in, outside diameter, and  $\frac{7}{4}$  in, long.

Ranges 2, 3 and 4 are wound on ½in. diameter coil formers. Range 2 has 11½ turns of 26s.w.g. enamelled wire, occupying ½in. and tap 2 is 1½ turn from point 3. Coil 3 has 26 turns of 33s.w.g. enamelled wire, close wound, the tapping being 1½ turn from point 3. Coil 4 is also of 33s.w.g. enamelled wire, and has 50 turns side by side, the tapping 2 being 2½ turns from point 3. A dust iron core is fitted in this coil.

Range 5 uses a medium wave coil. This coil would normally tune about 200-550m., but with the low capacity present the range is about 150-330m. Adjustment of the core allows the range to be modified as required.

On range 6 a long wave coil is used, turns being removed until suitable coverage can be obtained by adjusting the core position.

With range 5, 4 turns are provided between points 2 and 3. This is arranged by winding 4

extra turns of thin insulated wire on the original coil, point 2 being the junction of the original winding and new winding. With coil 6, 6 turns are required between points 2 and 3.

The coils are placed as in Fig. 3 and all switch connections are shown in Fig. 5.

#### **Tuning Scales**

Six scales are drawn on thin card and a wire pointer is fitted to VC1 to read against these. Scales and switch positions are numbered to agree. Markings may be in frequency or wavelength as preferred. VC2 being set at half capacity during this operation. Some type of signal generator is convenient, or the harmonics of a fixed fre-

quency oscillator may be counted off, and the scales marked to agree. If preferred, the usual short wave bands may be marked, other markings being omitted.

A Bulgin 0-100 scale was fitted under the

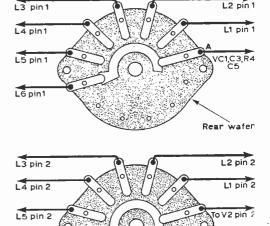


Fig. 5: SI switch connections.

securing nut of VC2, and bandspreading can be read against this. All normal tuning on short wave bands is carried out by means of this control.

#### **Operating Notes**

L6 pin 2

VR3 is the audio gain control and is used in the normal manner. VR2 controls regeneration, and adjustment here is critical, for best possible long

-continued on page 90

Front wafer

# communications

# THROUGH THE GROUND

An interesting idea for the experimenter

By C. R. Bradley

T is well known that the ground is conductive—direct connection is often made to it and used as an "earth" or reference point for electrical equipment. Equipment is often earthed for safety and voltages are usually measured with respect to ground.

It is possible to send a morse or voice signal from one point to another by arranging to have either a direct or alternating current flowing between the different points. However, to achieve this two conductors are needed between the two points. For this reason, telephones are connected to the central exchange by a pair of wires (Fig. 1a).

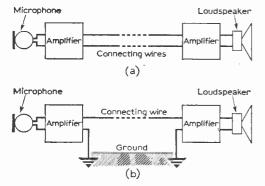


Fig. 1(a): A simple two-wire intercom; (b): a modified version which dispenses with one of the wires.

As the ground is conductive, one of the wires may be dispensed with and the terminals at each end of it earthed. Over long runs where wire is expensive, this reduces cost although the received signal may be weaker because of the resistance of the ground.

The system to be described makes use of the fact that the ground is not a perfect conductor and will show a resistance between any two points. The ground is in fact used to replace *both* conductors.

Consider a pair of earthing rods, A and B sunk several feet apart. A voltage X is applied between them. (Fig. 2).

The resistance of the ground may be regarded as an infinite number of "paths" between A and B. The shortest path AB (R1) will have the lowest resistance and all the other paths will have a resistance proportional to their lengths. In theory, the voltage X would drive a current through each one of the paths.

If another pair of earthing rods are sunk, Y and Z, there will be a small current flowing through the ground between Y and Z, produced by the voltage X. If Z and Y are a mile or more from A and B, then this current will only be a tiny fraction of that flowing through R1. However, with sensitive equipment it may be detected.

There will be a certain voltage drop across the resistance YZ and this will be shown on a sensitive voltmeter.

#### PRACTICAL SYSTEM

If a strong audio signal is fed in at A and B, it may be received at Y and Z. The audio signal may be produced by an ordinary audio amplifier with microphone. A suitable receiver is a pair of headphones connected between Z and Y. In practice two, not four earthing rods are needed as the cold water main is used for earthing points A and Z.

It is most important that the earths B and Y

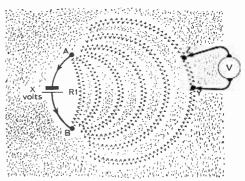
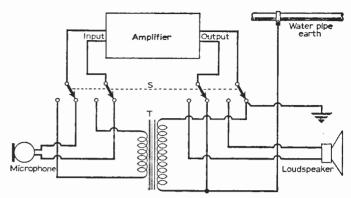


Fig. 2: Illustrating imaginary paths of resistance through which current produced by voltage X would flow.

make a good contact with the ground. An earthing rod may be used or a large piece aluminium, copper or brass (not lead or iron since both will corrode). A piece of scrap piping or sheet is suitable; the only requirement is that the object should have as large a surface area as possible.

The earths B and Y at the transmitting and receiving ends respectively should be placed as far away from any water pipes as possible. As these usually follow the roads, the far end of a back garden is usually position.

The earths and the water pipes is



resistance between the Fig. 4: A two-way station. The 4-pole switch S is shown in the send position. then measured at each end. T is an output transformer with its primary connected to the amplifier input.

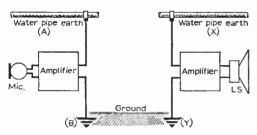
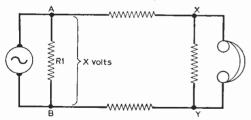


Fig. 3a (above): Diagram of a practical set up. Note that the water pipes are not used simply as conductors (the system would work even if the pipes at the transmitting and receiving ends were separate) but as convenient earthing points.

Fig. 3b (below): This shows how the resistance of the ground is used in the system of Fig. 3a. Only the current which flows in the direction AXYB is used; a much larger current flows through R1.



Depending on many factors, it may be anywhere between 100 and  $3\Omega$ .

If a pair of headphones are connected between the earth and the water pipes, a slight mains hum and an assortment of clicks and buzzes will be heard. This is all the equipment required at the receiving end. Both high and low impedance headphones work equally well.

An ordinary audio amplifier is used to provide the transmitted signal. The speaker output may be connected directly to the earth and the water pipes. The amplifier should be as powerful as possible; ranges of over a mile can be achieved with 8W amplifiers. Small low wattage transistor amplifiers

are no good for long distances. In spite of the mismatch at the transmitter, a clear signal should be received.

#### LONG DISTANCE RECEPTION

The received signal may be amplified if desired. Some kind of rough matching to the high input impedance of the amplifier would be required, and a loudspeaker output transformer connected in reverse would be suitable for this purpose.

#### **EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** FOR 2-WAY STATION

- I Audio amplifier, preferably 8 or more watts.
- Output transformer, ratio unimportant.
- Four-pole, two-way send/receive switch.
- I Earthing rod or substitute, see text.
- Microphone.
- I Loudspeaker.
- Water pipe earthing clip.
- I Long wire for connection to outside earth.

In case of difficulty, all these can be obtained from Electronic Constructors, Sutton Montis, Somerset.

Theoretically, for the best reception the earthing rod should be as far away from the nearest water pipes as possible at each end. Two earthing rods, as far apart as possible could be used instead of the earth-and-water pipe arrangement; this might reduce hum.

This method of communication is by no means a new idea but one that has been much neglected. There is much room for experimentation with multiple earth systems and tuned filters.

The writer hopes that anybody interested in this subject will write to him\*; it would be interesting to start a "ground ham" club. This is an excellent medium for code practice as the received signal is very similar to that received on the short waves.

> \* C. R. Bradley, 132 Horton Road, Datchet, Bucks.

# on the Short Waves COMMENTARY BY J. GUTTERIDGE

A T some time or another when tuning around the short wave bands newcomers hear programmes mentioning DX, reception reports, short wave listeners and transmitting amateurs. The purpose of this feature is to help readers to get the best out of their short wave receivers.

The more experienced listeners will not be overlooked either. For them the latest information of frequency changes, new stations and unusual DX will be given. So that this feature can be as useful as possible we hope readers will write in and tell us of any news of interest and details of listening activities,

#### Where to listen

The first thing to know is where to listen. Bands of frequencies are allocated to different forms of broadcasting by international agreement. Amateurs operate in the 160 metre band (1,715—2.000kc/s); 80m band (3,500—3,800kc/s); 42m band (7,000—7,100kc/s); 20m band (14,000—14,350kc/s); 14m band (21,000—21,450kc/s); and 10m band (28,000—29,700kc/s).

On the short waves, broadcasting stations operate in the 125m band (2,300—2,498kc/s); 90m band (3,200—3,400kc/s); 75m band (3,950—4,000kc/s); 60m band (4,750—4,995kc/s and 5,005—5,060kc/s); 49m band (5,950—6,200kc/s); 41m band (7,100—7,300kc/s); 31m band (9,500—9,775kc/s); 25m band (11,700—11,975kc/s); 19m band (15,100—15,450kc/s); 16m band (17,700—17,900kc/s); 13m band (21,450—21,750kc/s); and 11m band (25,600—26,100kc/s). Not all stations adhere to these bands, however, and a number of stations can be heard outside them.

With a few minor variations, these bands are the same all over the world. These two main variations occur in North and South America. Here there are no 75 and 41 metre bands for general broadcasting. As a result the 80 and 42 metre bands have been extended to cover these frequencies.

#### **Broadcasting Bands**

Because of changes—daily, monthly and annually—in ionospheric conditions, the stations which can be heard in these bands are continuously changing. Here then is a run down on the present general situation in the various broadcasting bands. Amateur bands will be dealt with next month

The 120, 90 and 60 metre bands are sometimes called tropical bands as they are mainly used for local domestic broadcasting by tropical countries. You will be extremely lucky to find a readable station on 120 and 90 metres. In the 60 metre band after dark careful tuning should find a number of South American stations and, particularly in the early evening. African stations. Morse (c.w.) interference usually makes things difficult.

Most of the stations in the 75 metre band are situated in Europe. They are at their best after dark. Long distance reception can also be achieved then

During daylight hours 49 metres will produce mainly Europeans. After darkness almost anything can be heard. With the present night-time closure of most of the higher frequency bands many stations are using at least one outlet in this band. The result is a morass of stations broadcasting on top of each other. Freak things are happening and you may find the more unexpected stations coming out on top.

#### Worldwide Reception on 31 metres

Conditions on 41 metres are similar to those on 49, although the range of stations is slightly wider during daylight hours. World-wide reception is possible during the day on 31 metres. After dark this band is also giving good DX.

Conditions on 25, 19. 16 metres are basically similar. Good long distance DX during the day-time. North America being the most predominant continent in the 19 and 16 metre bands. As darkness falls 16 metre stations quickly disappear to be followed shortly by 19 metres. Twenty-five metres is now lasting well, many South American stations being audible during the evening.

The 13 metre band at present gives a very limited amount of long distance reception. As soon as darkness falls the band becomes useless. At present the 11 metre band is not worth bothering with at all.

#### Stations to watch for

Now to some news of stations. All times given here are G.M.T. The Radio Voice of the Gospel, P.O. Box 654, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (call ETLF), says it is currently operating two 100kW transmitters. Although no programmes are beamed to Europe watch out for it after 1700 G.M.T. on 9.705kc/s when it has programmes to the Middle East and South Africa. Best chance of indentification is from 1900-1930 when the programme is in English. You may also hear the English transmission to West Africa from 1830-1930 on 15.440kc/s. Full QSL verification is given for correct reports.

If you want to hear the latest in U.S.A. light and popular music try Radio New York World-wide, 4 West 58th Street, New York 19. N.Y., U.S.A. (call WRUL). Transmission to the British Isles is from 1230-1930 on 15.440kc/s and 1930-2145 on 9.710kc/s. If these frequencies are blocked try the continental European ones. These are 1230-1530 on 15.370kc/s; 1530-1830 on 15.385kc/s; 1830-2145 on 9.520kc/s. Finally, a good DX station in the 75 metre band. Watch out on 3.940kc/s after 2200 for the Voice of America relay station at Okinawa.

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Elliptical Size 5 × 3 5 × 3 5 × 3 5 × 3 5 × 3	Gauss in lines 6000 7000 9000 6000 7000	Imped. un ohms 3 3 3 25 25	Price 7/6 8/- 8/6 9/6 10/-	Elliptical Size 5 × 3 6 × 4 6 × 4 6 × 4 6 × 4	Gates in lines 9000 6000 7000 8500 9500	Imped. in ohms 25 3 3 3	Price 11/- 8/6 9/- 9/6 10/-	Elliptical Size 7 × 3§ 8 × 2§ 8 × 2]	Gauss in lines 9500 6900 7900	Impedin ohms 3 3 5	Price 10/6 8/6 9/-	Elliptical Size 8 × 21 8 × 21 8 × 21 8 × 22	Gauss in lines 8500 9500 9500 9500	Imped. in ohms 3 4	Price 9/6 10/- 10/- 10/-

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Available accessories ininclude a 2500V d.c. multiplier and 5, 10 and 25A shunts for

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100uA f.s.d. D.C. Current: A.C. Voltage: -1,000V f.s.d. in 5 ranges -1,000V f.s.d. in 6 ranges -100mV f.s.d. 10V f.s.d. 2.5V f.s.d.

in 2 ranges using 1.5V cell. Sensitivity:  $10,000\Omega/V$  on d.c. Voltage ranges.  $1.000\Omega/V$  on a.c. Voltage ranges.

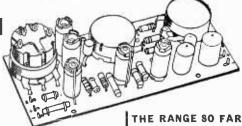
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# Leader Competition

A salready mentioned in this month's leader, page 25, the large number of entries to this competition and the high standard of many of them made the task of selecting the winners extremely difficult. Eventually, a short list of ten possible winners was drawn up. From these the winners were chosen; in fact the various contenders were so close that it was decided to add an extra prize for good measure. The winning two entries are reproduced on this page—they are printed as received and have not been altered in any way.

### **Debts of Gratitude**

1

Submitted by

R. T. Pretty Farnham Surrey HOW often, I wonder, do any of our readers pause from slide-rule or soldering iron manipulation to hark back to their youth to recall the origin of the interest in radio and electronics that we all share? When I did this, recently, I came to realise that I probably owe unsettled debts of gratitude to a number of men whose names are now regrettably forgotten.

They lent or gave me wireless textbooks and magazines, taught me how to solder, allowed me into their "shacks", made my first "tatty" one-valver work, gave advice—in other words they fostered my interest. This did not cost them a great deal, in either time or money; however, the value of their help cannot be calculated—it grew to the extent of becoming my livelihood!

In place of preoccupation with the problems of youth and public recitals of its shortcomings, would it not be a more positive step if some of us tried to repay our individual debts in this simple way? Merely letting the lad next door look over your shoulder while you set up one of the units you have built from a Practical Wireless circuit may give a youngster a glimpse of the career he wants, or bring him to one of the most satisfying hobbies there is.

# Youth, Electronics and Educational Reform

FROM reading Practical Wireless and other publications it appears that large numbers of young people are actively interested in various branches of radio and electronics. In the towns and cities there are often radio clubs where the younger generation can benefit from the knowledge and experience of other older enthusiasts, but there are also large numbers who, because of isolation or other factors, work, read and acquire knowledge on their own. Thus the achievements of these individuals are limited.

All of these young people are potential electrical and electronics engineers. With new advances and developments in electronics, society will come to depend more on those qualified people than at present, and youth, with its assets of enthusiasm and talent, will have to meet the demand. Recent Government reports have indicated that there is a real shortage of engineers

and technologists.

But is the educational system taking account of this? Most types of schools do not provide for modern sciences such as electronics at all, and often too much time is devoted to what are (to the prospective engineer) irrelevant subjects. If electronics was made a school subject the large numbers of teenage "lone wolves" of radio construction, as well as those belonging to radio clubs and societies, could broaden their knowledge and experience of electronics considerably and would be better fitted to pursue a career in this field.

More time must be given to practical work in schools because electronics, like almost all other modern sciences, demands the skilful co-ordination of hand and brain. It is the responsibility of teachers, parents and others who have influence in these matters to act immediately and prevent more time and talents

being wasted, for this is a waste we can ill afford.

4

Submitted by

Charles Forbes
Strabane
Co. Tyrone
N. Ireland

And here is the extra prizewinner, awarded for being so close to the first and second entries.

### Facts of Life

3

Submitted by

Cyril M. Parry

Tonyrefail

Glamorgan

Porth

WE'RE a mixed bunch with many different interests in the various fields of electronics, but let us take another look at that little chappie who is the common denominator of all our activities.

Individually he's a pretty insignificant fellow, our mutual friend the Electron, but with his numerous pals he lights the world, broadcasts our views, entertains us, helps us run our trade and commerce and very often does our thinking for us.

Do we think enough about his reactions when he is pulled along under the influence of d.c., only to find himself suddenly squashed against the plate of a condenser, or again when being hurled across the vast space between cathode and anode? What are the effects as he struggles through the narrow confines of a resistor?

If we are to really enjoy and understand our hobby, whether it be amateur transmission, hi-fi, model control or any other of the sidelines catered for in this magazine a knowledge of what makes him tick is essential.

A number of people such as Ohm and Kirchoff spent their lives following his movements, checking on his relationships until at last a basic pattern of his behaviour was established.

These basic principles make up the common base from where all our separate paths lead. Let us remember to go back to base occasionally to replenish our store of knowledge and to meet again the hero of our story, the Electron.

The judges felt that as the last ten to be considered were all serious contenders, some recognition of their merit should be given. Accordingly, here is a list of those entries—in no particular order—which came so close to winning one of the prizes:

Back to Basics: by A. S. Hussey, South Ockenden, Essex.
Endeavour: by K. L. Smith, London, E.17.
Satellites and the Ham: by F. Dawson, London, S.E.3.
Your Motive and Ours: by F. P. Mason, Sutton, Surrey.
Are We Becoming Earthbound?: by W. F. Clark, Chelmsford, Essex.
The Magic of Tomorrow: by R. Hodges, London, N.15.
Contributors: by R. A. Bower, Dunfermline.

Congratulations to the winners and to those with a "near miss", and many thanks to all those other readers who sent along entries for the competition. Space does not permit mentioning everyone by name but we hope that you will accept our appreciation for entering into the spirit of the contest.

Finally-

We thought readers would be interested in the entry published below. It could not be considered in the contest as the approach and viewpoint are not appropriate to a leader. However, it was so unusual—and the only one received from the wife of a reader—that we think it worth reproducing. After reading this, we ask married readers to search their consciences!

## **Grounds?**

AM a widow, a wireless widow. There are times when I wish Marconi had never been born. Still I suppose if it hadn't been Marconi it would have been someone else. When I sue for divorce I wonder what the Judge will say when I claim grounds for desertion and cite a radio as co-respondent.

I sit busy knitting or reading and then my better half looks up from the magazine he has been reading. "I say, do you know this firm only charges 1s. 9d. for a ferrite rod." Now what that is I have no idea, but nurmur something appropriate. I needn't have bothered, he is already immersed in the magazine again.

We went to the local flower show last week or at least I thought that's where we were going. I might have guessed it. The first stop was the Amateur Radio Tent! The postman called yesterday. Ah! I thought the magazine I was expecting. What a hope! it was the valves he had sent for.

This morning when I went to the door expecting to see the baker, it was a young girl. "Please can Mr. B. mend my radio, it is making funny noises." I make funny noises, only they are insides where no-one can hear them.

I settle at the sewing machine to make my new dress, and then pandemonium breaks out. The baby has got hold of a couple of valves and is busy banging them on the piane.

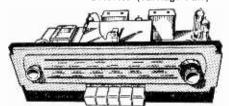
It's strange, but whenever I need to work in the kitchen there is always just one little wire which needs soldering! Thank goodness he knows nothing about TV. There are enough bits and pieces about now, not to mention the magazines and diagrams which I am constantly tidying up.

Submitted by

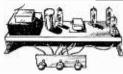
4

Mrs. Joyce Burdett Leicester

#### BRAND NEW AM/FM (V.H.F.) RADIO GRAM CHASSIS AT £13.13.0 (Carriage Paid)



Chassis size 15 x 6½ x 5½n. high. New manufacture. Dia. 14½ x 4in. In 2 colours, predominantly gold. 200-250 v. A.C. only. Pick-up. E.A. Speaker. Ac., E., and Dipole Socketa. Five push buttons—OFF. L.W., M.W., F.M. and Gran. Aligned and tested. O.P. Transformer. Tone Control. 1000-1900 M.: 200-560 M.: 88-98 Mc/s. Valves EZ80 rect.; ECH81, EP89, BABCNO, ELB4, ECC85. Speaker 8 x 5in. and Cabinet to fit chassis (table model), 47/6 (post 5/-). 10 x 6in. ELLIPTICAL SPEAKER 25/- to purchasers of this chassis. TERMS: (Thassis) 823.10.0 down and 5 monthly payments of 22.40. Cheap Room Dipole for V.H.F. 12/6. Feeder 6d, per yard. Circuit diagram 2/6, ALTERNATIVE DESIGN. L.W. 1000-1900 M. S.W. (9 -15 Mc·s): M.W. 190-475M; V.H.F. S7-100 Mc/s: Gram. position. Otherwise similar to above chassis. Price 215.15,0 (carr. paid). TERMS: 23.10.0 down and 6 monthly payments of 22.4.0.



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53in, Double play, 1,800ft.	22/6	7in. Long play, 1,800ft	15/-
7in. Stand. play, 1,200ft.	12/6	MESSAGE TAPES	
7in, Long play, 1,800ft	19/6	3in.—150ft	3/6
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P.V.C. BASE		3in.—300ft.	7/6
5in. Standard play, 600ft.	8/6	P. & P. 1/- extra per reel; 4	recia
5%in. Standard play, 850ft.		and over Post Free.	
Full range of triple play L	afayette	e tape now available on all size s	pools

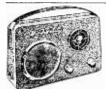
SELF-POWERED VHF TUNER CHASSIS. Covering 88-95 Mc/s. Mullard chassis, tovering seeps mels. miliard permeability tuner. Dims. 103 x 4½ x 5in. high. Valves ECC85 and 2—EFN9's plus 2 diodes with E280 rectiber. Mains transformer. Fully wired and tested. ONLY 27.17.6 (carr. paid). Room dipole 12/6. Feeder 6d, per yard.

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PP9 Battery 3/9. Data and instructions separately 2/6. Refunded if you

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6-transistor radio covered in sponge-clean 6-transistor radio covered in sponge-clean Duracour Indric, in latest two-tone shades, M.W. and L.W. ferrite rod, proxision for car aerial, 2-colour scale. With PP9 battery giving 300 hours use. Weighs under 4 lbs. Wilh arrying handle, 12 x 7in, link x 44m. at base tapering to 2m at top. Brand new, fully guaranteed. 3 push buttons. Superhet circuit, 5in, L.R.



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Chassis 10 x 7½ x 7½in. high over trans. Used, guaranteed and in excellent order. New values E740, ECC53 and 2 x E141; 8 watts. Mains trans. tapped 200-230 volts. 0, p. Trans., for 3, 8 and 15 ohm. Choke smoothing. On-oflyot,, and tone controls. For tuners, Record Players, etc., 23.15.0. P. & P. 6\*\*. We can modify tor Guitar input for 15f-extrs.

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Chassis  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{2} \times 4\frac{3}{2}$  in high. New production. Valves  $4 \times ECL83$  and 1-ECC83. Two metal rects. Mains trans, and 2 o.p. trans. Separate control panel  $7\frac{1}{2} \times 4$  in containing Mono/Stereo switch; balance; vol.; treble; bass. Brand new. 27.17.6. P. & P.  $6^{1}$ .

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Mains input giving 6.3v. 2 amp. Size  $2\frac{1}{4} \times 20 \times 1in$ . ( $2\frac{1}{4}in$ , over winding) 5/6 ca. Less 10% for 12, or 20% for 50. P. & P. 2/- for 1 to 6, post free more than six.



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SKYROVER De Luxe

General Specification for both models

7 transistors and 2 diode superhet—6 waveband portable receiver, covering the full Medium Waveband (180-576M) and Short Waveband (31-49M) and in addition 4 separate switched Band Spread Ranges on 13M, 16M, 19M and 25M/bands—with manual Band Spread Tuning for accurate Station selection. I.F. frequency 470Kc/s. Output 500MW. 5in. Ceramic Magnet P.M. Speaker, Telescopic and internal Ferrite Rod Aerial. All Mullard Transistors and Diodes. The coli Pack and tuning heart is completely factory assembled, wired and tested. The remaining assembly can be completed in under three hours from our detailed and easy to follow instructions. Operates on four 1.5V torch batts. (U2 or equivalent).

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(approx. same size as PP3 battery).

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# 2-stage Amplifier

# A ONE-VALVE RECORD PLAYER AMPLIFIER DELIVERING UP TO 3.5W OUTPUT BY G. J. KING

THIS amplifier is designed to give good quality reproduction of disc records for the smallest possible outlay. Although it features a simple, single-ended output stage and a modest one valve, it is nevertheless capable of delivering a maximum of 3.5W of audio.

At 2W output the total distortion is less than 0.5%, but as with any small amplifier of this nature the distortion tends to rise rapidly towards full output. At 3W the distortion is a little below 3% and gets up to the 10% mark at full output of the valve.

For many domestic applications the peak power rarely exceeds 1 to 2W, for this is quite a loud noise from a sensitive speaker system, and within

 $(\mu=100)$  and the high slope of the pentode (gm = 10mA/V at an anode current of 36mA) provide a remarkably high overall sensitivity. In a normal circuit the pentode section is fully driven from a 50mV signal applied to the grid of the triode section.

Thus, by the use of a crystal or ceramic pick-up, quite a large degree of negative voltage feedback can be applied overall and still the valve can be driven to full output. Hitherto such circuit technique has demanded the employment of a separate pre-amplifier valve or very little or zero negative feedback. This is one of the reasons why previous single-stage record reproducing amplifiers, such as those used in certain commercial instru-

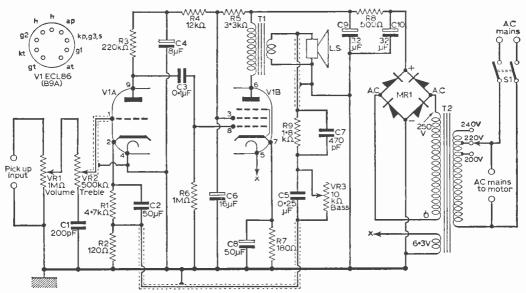


Fig. 1: The complete circuit of the amplifier.

this range of power the amplifier has several hi-fi attributes.

#### Audio Triode-Pentode Valve

The design is based on the Mullard ECL86, which is a fairly recent triode-pentode valve evolved specifically for audio applications. The high amplification factor of the triode section

ments of the popular price range, having quite a long way to go to give anything approaching hi-fi quality.

Apart from the valve, the quality of reproduction is tied closely to the design of the output or speaker transformer. The goodness of this component governs the amount of negative feedback which can be applied before the amplifier goes

unstable at certain frequencies where the phase shift is excessive. Preferably, the transformer should be free of resonances well above the audible spectrum. Bad resonances at the top end of the a.f. spectrum will tend to incite instability with full treble lift.

#### The Circuit

The circuit is based on a design by Mullard Limited, but with small alterations to suit the application in mind. As shown in Fig. 1, a completely isolated mains transformer is employed. It was decided to adopt this safer method rather than trying to cut costs by the use of an a.c.-d.c. arrangement, for it was thought that experimenters may wish to use the amplifier in conjunction with some other equipment, such as a tape recorder, in which case a "live" chassis would prove somewhat of an embarrassment.

To facilitate smoothing and to maintain the lowest possible hum level a bridge h.t. rectifier circuit was chosen. The bridge rect.fier is a contact-cooled type with a current rating of 50-75mA. The power section, in fact, has a very wide safety margin, for the amplifier takes little more than 40mA. But this was thought desirable as it not only allows the amplifier to be operated continuously over long periods without heating up, but it also gives a bit of spare power should it be required to fit a pre-amplifier stage for a tape head.

The triode section is arranged as a voltage amplifier, with feedback applied to the cathode circuit from the output of the pentode section. The gain of the triode section is approximately 50 times. The pick-up signal is applied across the volume control VR1, and from here it goes to the treble control VR2 which, in conjunction with C1, forms a passive RC network, giving continuous treble cut from about 300c/s.

R3 is the triode anode load which is fed from the h.t. line through a two-stage filter R5, C6 and R4, C4. V1A is biased by the voltage drop across R1 and R2 in series, and R3 is bypassed by C2 to avoid degeneration due to negative current feedback. The feedback voltage is effectively applied

across R2.

The signal at the anode of V1A is coupled to the control grid of V1B via C3, with R6 as the grid-leak. The screen of the pentode is energised at R5, C6 filter, while the valve is biased by the voltage dropped across the cathode resistor R7,

with C8 as the bypass. The pentode operates with an anode load of  $7k\Omega$ , so an impedance of this value must be reflected across the primary winding of the output transformer when the required speaker is connected (see List of Components). One side of the secondary is connected to chassis and the other side to the negative feedback and bass control loop. The secondary, of course, also connects across the speaker.

Negative feedback is taken through the network C5, C7, VR3 and R9. The parallel combination C5 and VR3 forms the bass control proper. This provides continuously variable bass boost from about 1,500c/s.

The main h.t. smoothing is achieved by C9 and C10 and R8. Note that it may be necessary to

adjust the value of R8 to give 275V on the h.t. line, relative to chassis.

#### Construction

A prototype amplifier was constructed in two sections—the amplifier proper and a separate control panel. This was considered desirable for it allows the control panel to be mounted almost anywhere in a cabinet, for accessibility of the controls, without having to bother too much about the positioning of the amplifier chassis.

The control panel is connected to the amplifier chassis through three cables, two of which are screened. A screened single conductor is employed to couple the grid of the triode to the treble control VR2. a screened double conductor for the negative feedback and bass control VR3, and a

#### COMPONENTS LIST

Resistors:		1110 100/
RI 4·7kΩ 5%	R6	
R2 120Ω 5%	R7	180Ω 2W ww 5%
R3 220kΩ 5%		500Ω 2W 10%
R4 12kΩ 10%	R9	1·8k 5%

RS  $3.3k\Omega$  10% All IVV carbon unless otherwise indicated Potentiometers:

VRI  $IM\Omega$  log, with two-pole on/off switch VR2  $500k\Omega$  linear VR3  $10k\Omega$  log.

Capacitors:

C1 200pF ceramic 10%
C2 50μF electrolytic 12V
C3 0·1μF paper 350V
C4, 6 8 + 16μF electrolytic 350V
C5 0·25μF paper 350V
C7 470pF ceramic 10%
C8 50μF electrolytic 25V

C9, 10 32+32μF electrolytic 350V

Miscellaneous: T1 Speaker transformer. Ratio 46:1 for  $3\Omega$  speaker, or 21:1 for  $15\Omega$  speaker. Primary inductance 10H. (Radiospares "Hygrade").

T2 Mains transformer. Secondaries 0-250V 75mA; 6-3V 1-5A (Radiospares "Bridge" type).

VI ECL86

MRI Bridge rectifier, 250V 75mA

One B9A valveholder, nylon loaded and with screening skirt. One two-way and one four-way tag strips. One two-way speaker socket. Soldering tags, 6 and 4 BA nuts and screws. Screened cable, single conductor and also double conductor. Connecting wire and flex. Three control knobs. Metal for chassis.

length of plastic flex for the circuit between the mains primary of T2 and the on/off switch S1, which is ganged to the volume control VR1.

The inter-connecting cables should not exceed about 18in. in length owing to the high impedance of the input circuit. and because of the high sensitivity of the ECL86 the utmost of care must be taken to avoid stray capacitive coupling between the grid of the triode section and the anode circuit of the pentode section. Excessive unwanted coupling here will result in instability which will increase in severity as the treble control is turned up. The negative feedback will also be adversely affected due to phase shift effects.

The connection to Pin 1 should, therefore, have

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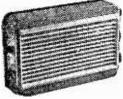
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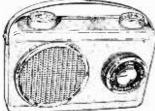


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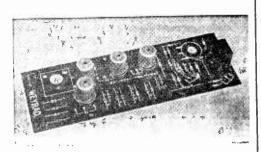
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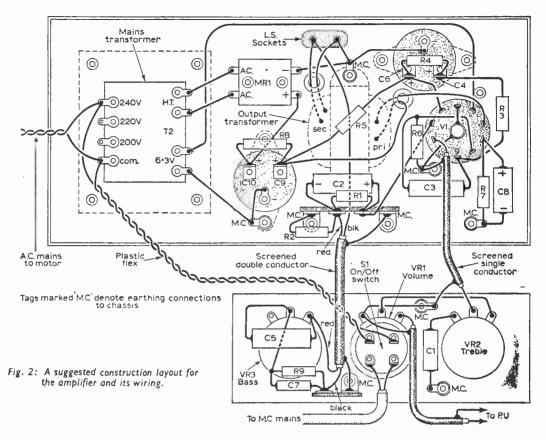
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the shortest possible length of inner conductor exposed from the screened lead, while the screen itself must be bonded to chassis at the solder tag clamped underneath the valveholder securing nut. Further, the anode lead to pin 6 should be routed round the far side of the valveholder, as shown in Fig. 2.

Care must be taken to ensure that the inner conductors of the negative feedback and bass screened coupling are not inadvertently reversed during the construction. This can be avoided by the use of a screened double conductor in which the conductors are coloured red and black. Both screened cables must be bonded to chassis at their screens at both ends—at the amplifier and the control panel. Inefficient "earthing" will cause instability and a high hum level.

If the interconnecting cables are extra long the hum level may be higher than necessary, and in some cases it may be possible to minimise it by connecting a separate, fairly large diameter flexible conductor from a soldering tag on the amplifier (as close as possible to VI) to a similar tag on the control panel (as close as possible to the volume control). The screened outer conductor of a length of coaxial cable is highly suitable for this application, after first pulling out the polythene-covered inner conductor.

#### Component Layout

The layout of the components and the point-topoint wiring are given in detail in Fig. 2. The dimensions of the amplifier chassis will depend very much on the size of the mains transformer and output transformer, while the control panel can be any size to suit the application which the experimenter may have in mind. The controls on the latter, however, should be grouped as closely as possible together to avoid extra-long inter-connecting wires.

Both the chassis and the control panel can be made of 16s.w.g. aluminium sheet and, although the main amplifier can be built direct on to a flat piece of aluminium, for the sake of rigidity the sides of the chassis are best bent at right-angles to form a very shallow chassis with quarter-to halfinch sides. In application, the chassis may then be mounted on pillars or wood strips.

In the prototype a through-chassis type of mains transformer was employed, as Fig. 2 shows, but there is no reason at all why a chassis-mounted type of transformer could not be used. Rubber grommets would then be employed to feed the transformer connections through the chassis.

The output transformer is mounted on the top

-continued on page 78

## BOOKS REVIEWED

DISC RECORDING AND REPRODUCTION By P. J. Guy. 256 pages,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Price 42s.

RADIO RECEPTION
By H. Henderson. 256 pages. 5½ x 8½ ins. Price 42s.
Both published by Focal Press Ltd.

THE idea of a series of books, each one self contained, which dovetail to form a single authoritative work is an excellent one. Such a series is *The Technique of Sound Reproduction* which, edited by John Borwick, comprises six works covering the whole field of hi-fi sound recording and reproduction. Each book is written by a specialist and a uniform technical level has been aimed at throughout the series. Two books in this series are reviewed this month; we hope to review others in due course.

DISC RECORDING devotes the first six chapters (80 pages) to definitions of the nature of sound and to the theory and practice of modern disc recording from the microphone to the processing of records. The bulk of the book covers the component constituents of disc reproduction-styli, pick-ups, motors, amplifiers, etc. Supplementary chapters deal with such aspects as stereo reproduction, hum and motor troubles, equalisers, response measurements, etc.

A valuable section is made up of five appendices which provide a wealth of design facts and formulae on such things as negative feedback, recording and reproducing equalisation, constant This arrangement of resistance faders, etc. grouping the mathematical material at the end of the book not only makes it a very useful reference section but permits the author to develop his main chapters without having to digress with formulae and calculations.

To sum up: For those who have progressed beyond the stage of simple amplifiers or wish to fill out their knowledge of the many factors involved in modern recording and reproduction of discs this will find a welcome place on the bookshelf.

RADIO RECEPTION is perhaps the "odd man out" in this series, for it is the only one not dealing exclusively in purely audio matters. Its inclusion, however, is justified in that radio tuners are needed to receive the high-quality v.h.f.-f.m. broadcasts.

The first three chapters deal with basic theory and your reviewer cannot quite decide whether this is to be applauded or condemned! There are , so many books available covering these aspects in much greater detail that the space could well have been used to elaborate on more practical matters.

However, the chapters are very well written and will serve as a general "refresher" for those already conversant with basic theory. They also serve to point to the overall level at which the following chapters are aimed. These chapters deal with the r.f. amplifier, frequency changing, i.f. amplification, demodulation.

No audio circuitry is described, this being dealt with in a separate volume. These sections give data for both valve and transistor circuitry and practical values are given in many instances.

Alignment and Performance has just over five pages and, although it cannot be faulted as such, perhaps a more extensive and more practical treatment would have been beneficial. This is followed by a section on commercial receivers and tuners with circuit diagrams and descriptions. Here again some criticism: the circuit diagrams are obviously reprinted copies from manufacturers' literature and consequently they are all in different styles and in some cases are so small as to present a decided strain on the eyes. For the price of this book it would surely not be unreasonable to expect circuits to be redrawn to suit the space available. And one circuit has no component values shown at all!

Two good chapters follow—Receiving Aerials and Stereo Reception and Transmission. The book concludes with a short glossary and a biblio-

A useful feature (both books) is the listing of main headings at the beginning of each chapter. D.C.

#### SILICON CONTROLLED RECTIFIER DESIGNERS' HANDBOOK

Published by Westinghouse Electric Corp. Pennsylvania. 274 pages, Siin. × 8iin. Price Ios.

THE purpose of this handbook is to familiarise circuit design engineers with the characteristics of npnp four-layer semiconductor devices such as the conventional silicon-controlled rectifier (SCR) and the gate-controlled switch (GCS).

Principles of operation, methods of construction, ratings and characteristics of these devices are described. In the large section dealing with applications of the SCR and the GSC the following are among the subjects treated to detailed analysis: switching circuits, d.c. to a.c., power inverters, ultrasonic generators, servo amplifiers, d.c. choppers and ignition systems.

The section Design Data, or "working tool" information, as it is aptly sub-titled, comprises 40-odd pages of tables and curves all relevant to SCR, GCS and other rectifier circuits-a valuable compilation of data from widely scattered sources.

The handbook includes specifications giving the mechanical, electrical and thermal characteristics of each Westinghouse type currently available.

Distributors of this handbook in the U.K. are the Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd., 82 York Way, King's Cross, London, N.1.—F.E.B.

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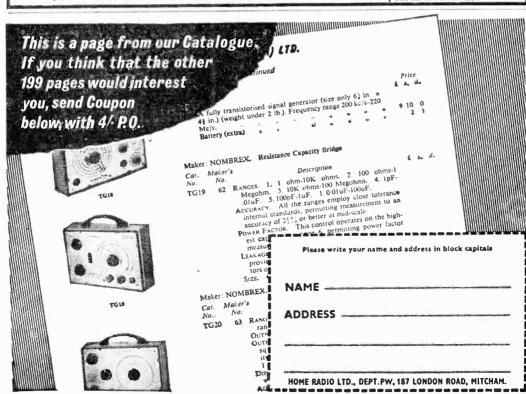
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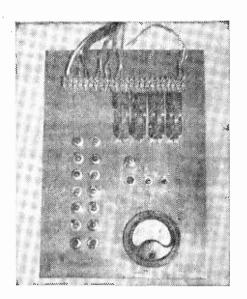
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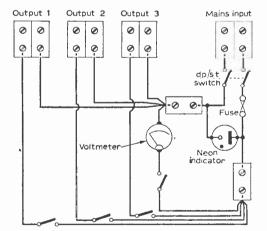
## A Mains Distribution Panel

BY G. R. SIMPSON



THE circuit diagram (Fig. 1) shows a simple mains distribution panel consisting of one fused mains input and three switched mains outputs with a neon indicator to signify that the board is alive, and a 0-300V a.c. voltmeter.

The purpose of the panel is to accept the current from one mains input and to redistribute it



through switches to the three output terminals. More output terminals can be built in if desired.

Not only does the panel eliminate the need for double-adaptors, but enhances the appearance of the work-room layout and provides a central panel from where any piece of equipment can easily be switched on.

The chassis construction of the mains distribution panel is very simple. A small biscuit tin could be used, or alternatively, a laminated plastic on plywood face, with 2in. x 1in. wood for the edges faced with laminated plastic and a plywood base-board with four small rubber feet.

A d.p.s.t. switch is used for the mains input while the output switches are s.p.s.t. The input and output terminals are provided by a row of 5A block connectors mounted on the surface of the panel. This row of connectors should be covered by means of a strip of plastic material to prevent the possibility of the live terminals being touched by hand. The fuse can either be the Sylok type or the flush panel mounting, and should be rated in such a way that if a short should occur, the panel fuse would be blown and not the house fuse. For the connections underneath where redistri-

Fig. 1: The simple circuit of the unit.

bution takes place, 10A block connectors are used. The voltmeter has its own switched circuit.

The panel shown in the photograph is slightly more elaborate than the unit just described. It has seven fused and neon indicated outputs, provision for the voltmeter to be used externally, two non-switched outputs and provision for a time switch cut-out.

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ACTON, BRENTFORD AND CHISWICK RADIO CLUB Hon. Sec.: G3GEH, 188 Gunnersbury Avenue, Acton, London, W.3.

Any local radio enthusiasts interested in joining this society are invited to attend the monthly meetings which are held at the A.E.U Club, 66 High Road, Chiswick.

When the Club assembles for its next meeting—on 14th April—

members will be carrying out some comparison tests on receivers.

BRADFORD RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: E. G. Barker, G3OTO, 63 Woodcot Avenue, Baildon, Shipley, Yorkshire.
Society activities for March began with a junk sale on the 10th.

A fortnight later however, came the more formal occasion of the Annual General Meeting, held on the 24th.

CLIFTON AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: J. Rose, G3OGE, 63 Broomfield Road, Beckenham,

On 6th March members were entertained by G3JEQ, who was

talking about his portable operation from Scotland.

Later in the month a number of members made a visit to Crystal Palace Amateur Radio Society in the first round of the inter-club quiz. On 3rd April it was the turn of Clifton to play hosts to Crystal Palace members, in the return half of the match.

FLINTSHIRE RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: A. Antley, Fairholme, Fairfield Avenue, Rhyl, Flintshire.

After the usual practice period of slow morse, the March meeting of this Society—held on the 31st—continued with the main part of the evening's programme which proceeded under the title "Animal, Vegetable or Mineral".

MELTON MOWBRAY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: D. W. Lilley, G3FDF, 23 Melton Road, Asfordby Hill, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire. At the meeting on 26th March, junior members of the Society brought along problems they had met as beginners to amateur radio, for discussion amongst order members at this consequence. radio, for discussion amongst other members at this open evening.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec.: H. James, G3MCN, 448 East Prescot Road, Knotty Ash, Liverpool 14. The Society's annual Hamfest was held on 7th March. This took

The Society's annual Hamfest was held on /th March. This took the form of a dinner and dance and proved to be a memorable occasion for all members who attended. Three days after this members met to hold a Hamfest "post mortem".

The next two meetings were held on the 17th and 24th of the month and were respectively, a film show and a junk sale. Activities

for the month ended with members taking part in a two-team quiz

NORTHERN HEIGHTS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: A. Robinson, G3MDW, Candy Cabin, Ogden,

Halifax, Yorkshire.

On 18th March, a group of members visited the Tape Recorder Centre in Halifax, where they were entertained by an interesting demonstration of hi-fi equipment.

A ragchew began the programme for the new month on 1st April.

READING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Hon, Sec.: R. G. Nash, G3EJA, "Peacehaven", 9 Holybrook

Road, Reading, Berkshire.
The only meeting for March was held on the 28th and was devoted to gear for mobile operation.

SALOP AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec.: K. E. Jones, G3RRN, Greystones, Shrewsbury Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire.
The lecturer at the meeting on 12th March was the Society's secretary, Dr. K. E. Jones, whose subject that evening was "Man, Medicine and Electrons"

SCARBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: P. B. Briscombe, G8KU, "Roseacre", Irton, Scarborough, Yorkshire.

The full programme of events for March included a film show given on the 12th. This was followed a week later by a talk concerning simple formulae for the Radio Amateur's Examination. At the final meeting for March, on the 26th, members were

invited to deliver a five-minute address on any radio subject of their choice.

April began with a surplus sale on the 2nd.

SOUTH BIRMINGHAM RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: T. W. Legg, Flat 3, 80 Alcester Road, Birming-ham 23.

The March meeting of this Society was held on the 19th, when members who attended heard a tape recorded lecture.

SPEN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: N. Pride, 100 Raikes Lane, Birstall, Leeds. Members who attended the meeting on 7th March heard a lecture entitled "Communication Satellites". This was followed at the next meeting by a talk on "Silicon Semiconductors" given on 18th March.

STOCKPORT RADIO SOCIETY Hon. Sec.: R. R. Diamond, G3SFN, 102 Chatsworth Road, Hazel Grove, Cheshire.

A recent innovation at meetings of this Society is the opportunity given to all junior members to discuss with a senior member, any questions or problems they have concerning their hobby. These discussions are held for 15 minutes before each meeting begins.

The highlight of the programme for March was the Ladies' Evening held on the 11th. At this event, members brought along their Y.L.'s and X.Y.L.'s for an evening's entertainment which had been organised for them, and for the opportunity to meet other members.

One of the oldest members of this Society, G2ARX, announced recently that he would present to the Society a Cup, to be awarded annually to the winner of an equipment construction competition.

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Hon. Sec.: R. A. G. MacIntosh, 50 Field Lane, Oldswinford, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on 10th

March, when official Society business was reviewed.

UNIVERSITY OF KEELE RADIO SOCIETY V. J. Reynolds, G3COY, 90 Prince's Road, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

on-Irent, Standroshire.

This Society is currently engaged with plans for its participation in the Midlands Mobile Rally, to be held at Trentham Gardens on 19th April. On this date, the Society will perform the duty of an out-station on the talk-in network on 160m. During the Rally the station will be on the air under callsign G3COY on 1960kc/s.

WEST KENT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

WEST KENT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY R. Trevitt, 28 Dales Avenue, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Because of the Easter holiday, only one meeting was held during March, this being on the 13th. At this meeting members saw a demonstration of various pieces of test equipment.

MIDLAND MOBILE RALLY

This year's rally is to be held on 19th April at Trentham Gardens, Trentham, Nr. Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. Talk-in stations will be provided on 160m, 80m and 2m.
Organised jointly by the Midland Amateur Radio Society and the Stoke-on-Trent Radio Society, this event should prove to be an

enjoyable occasion for all those who attend. In addition to the rally of mobiles from all over the country, an exhibition of radio society and trade stands will be staged, and of special interest will

be a display of amateur television.

In the grounds, the R.A.F. mountain rescue unit will give demonstrations and there will be water ski-ing on the lake.

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Frequency range 1.5-30 Mc/s. Substantially improves the performance of any superhet receiver

G4HZ writes 1 am delighted with it, it improves my Eddystone 640 in all respects. The difference with the Preselector is fantastic, a weak signal on 15 metres about S2 changed to \$8. On the L.F. Bands, unwanted noise and mush is cut out.

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in conjunction with my Eddy-stone 888 are amazing. Signals are twice as strong with much higher signal/noise ratio. A first-class product well worth the money The P.R.30 uses EF183 Frame Grid R.F. Amplifier and provides ı up to 20 dB gain. Features include vernier tuning, gain control, selector switch for either dipole or end fed antenna. External power supplies (obtainable from Rx). Smart styling in grey and

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\* Provision for panel phone jack.

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or rejecting a signal on AM, CW or 58B. Both PEAR and NOLL functions are tunable over the receiver I.F. passband. Model RQ 10 for external power supplies 180-250 volts at 5 Ma, 6.3 volts .3 amp (obtainable from receiver). 66.15.0. Carr. 3'-. Model RQ 10X self-powered version for 200-250 volts AC. This model has accessory socket to provide up to 25Ma at 200 volts H.T. and 6.3 volts 1 amp AC for other accessories. 68.8.0. Carr. 3'6

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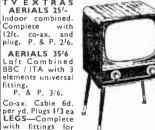
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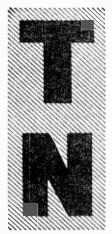
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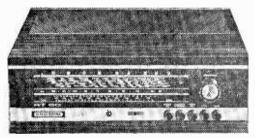
## rade ews

#### Hi-Fi Tuner

THE new a.m./f.m. tuner, just released by Grundig Limited, employs twelve valves and fifteen semi-conductors in its circuit, providing a.m. coverage from 510kc/s to 1,620kc/s and f.m. coverage from 87Mc/s to 104Mc/s. The circuit features switchable automatic frequency control and a stereo decoder stage on f.m., and switchable bandwidth selection on a.m. Several other worthwhile facilities are provided.

Finished in a smart teak case, the tuner (model RT50) comes from Grundig (Great Britain) Limited, 40 Newlands Park, Sydenham, London,

S.E.26.



The Grundig a.m./f.m. tuner model RT50.

#### Automatic Record Changer

THE model 3000LM is a new automatic record changer produced by Garrard Engineering Limited. This deck will take up to eight records of various sizes at four speeds, but it can also be used as a single play deck, when the record spindle is replaced by a special short spindle, supplied with each deck.

Another feature of Garrard's new changer, is the low mass pick-up arm incorporated into the design. This design technique eliminates the mass and resonance of the pick-up arm, thus ensuring that the best possible performance is obtained from the pick-up cartridge. Reduced record wear is also achieved through this arrangement.

The manufacturers of the 3000LM record changer are Garrard Engineering Limited, Newcastle Street, Swindon.



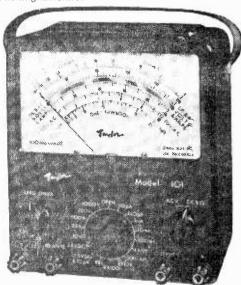
This is the 3000LM record changer made by Garrard.

#### 100,000 $\Omega/V$ Multimeter

 $\Lambda$  NEW multimeter from Taylor's has a sensitivity of 100.000Ω/V. This instrument—the model 101—should find many applications in radio and television servicing and in transistor circuit measurements. In many applications, the model 101 can be used in place of a valve voltmeter, but without the inconvenience of zero drift, valve replacement, and a.c. supply connections inherent in valve voltmeters. The instrument incorporates a rugged  $7\mu\Lambda$  centre pole movement which features a mirror arc on the scale to assist readings.

Ranges of the 101 include a 10μA range and resistance measurements to 200MΩ. The manufacturers of this instrument are Taylor Electrical Instruments Limited, Montrose Avenue, Slough.

Buckinghamshire.



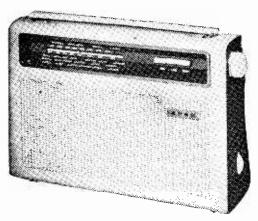
The model 101 multimeter from Taylar Limited.

#### 7-Transistor Portable

RECENTLY introduced into the range of Bush radios is the TR112 transistor portable. This receiver covers the long and medium wave bands and provides a power output of 300mW through a 6in. x 4in. elliptical loudspeaker.

The 7-transistor circuit has an average power consumption of 20mA which is supplied by the usual 9V battery. Tone control is provided and wave band selection is accomplished by pushbutton switches.

The wooden cabinet is covered mainly in calf vynide material with walnut veneer end panels. Bush Radio, Power Road, Chiswick, London, W.4, make the TR112, which costs 21 guineas.



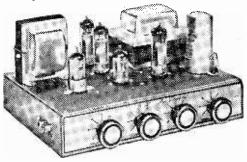
This new 7-transistor portable joins the range of Bush

#### 14W Amplifier

TECHNICAL SUPPLIERS LIMITED have announced a new 14W high fidelity amplifier available either ready assembled or in kit form. The amplifier which is known as the B.H. High Fidelity 14, offers separate mixing facilities and full range bass and treble cut and lift controls. As a kit, the amplifier sells for nine guineas; manufactured and fully tested it costs eleven guineas.

Three or  $15\Omega$  outputs are provided and with an input sensitivity of 5 and 40mV respectively, 14W output is obtained. Frequency response is 30c/s to  $16kc/s \pm 2dB$  at 10W output.

Technical Suppliers Limited, Hudson House, 63 Goldhawk Road, London, W.12 are the makers of this amplifier.



T.S.L.'s new 14W amplifier.

#### Trade Note Correction

We wish to bring to the attention of readers the fact that the Irongate (M.O.) Company Limited are the sole U.K. stockists of the transistor tester featured in the Trade News page of the March issue, and not as stated in that item, the manufacturers of this equipment.

#### A Simple 2-stage Amplifier

-continued from page 67

of the chassis, as revealed by the broken-line in Fig. 2, and the connecting leads are directed through grommets to the various circuits underneath the chassis.

The smoothing and filter electrolytics on the h.t. line comprise two dual units C9/10 and C4/6. These are of the metal case variety and are mounted by clips on the top of the chassis, with chassis cut-outs to allow connection to the tags. The bridge rectifier is clamped on to the chassis to balance with C9/10.

The speaker circuit is terminated at a two-point socket, but if preferred the speaker leads may be soldered directly into the circuit. Note that negative feedback will occur only when the "earth" and feedback connections on the secondary of the output transformer are correctly phased. If the connections are the wrong way round positive feedback will take place. This is exhibited by very bad instability which is completely uncontrollable. Should this happen, the black inner conductor of

the screened negative feedback cable and the chassis connection to the speaker socket should be reversed.

Provided the layout is adhered to there should be no problems in getting the amplifier to work correctly. For full output the amplifier requires in the order of 400mV of input signal, and this is readily available from a crystal or ceramic type of pickup.

#### **ECLL800** Audio Valve

THIS new valve used in the "7-20" Stereo Amplifier which was described in the March issue of Practical Wireless, consists of a triode and two power pentodes within one envelope and has a noval (B9A) base.

Developed and manufactured by Standard Electric Lorenz A.G.. West Germany, the ECLL800 is now available in the U.K. from Messrs Lugton and Co., 209-212 Tottenham Court Road, London W.I.

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This series of receivers was designed primarily to give practical aid to students at an Evening Class. The circuits are unusual, but not novel. The final stage receiver is much more sensitive than most two transistor receivers, but is not more difficult to build.

The text is written for the young beginner and naturally more advanced readers will find some of the information superfluous. The author is sure that any beginner will be able to make this radio as a result of this article.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1181 OF THE APRIL ISSUE

BY F. V. KING

T may seem odd that having described in last month's issue, how to make the OC44 transistor Tr1 operate as an a.f. amplifier, we should now convert it to an r.f. amplifier! Actually in the final version of this receiver it acts as both! This is known as reflexing and since the circuit for this arrangement is rather difficult for the beginner to understand we are building it bit by bit and testing at each stage.

Fig. 9 shows the next modification with all wiring. The following wires (see Fig. 8) are removed or altered:

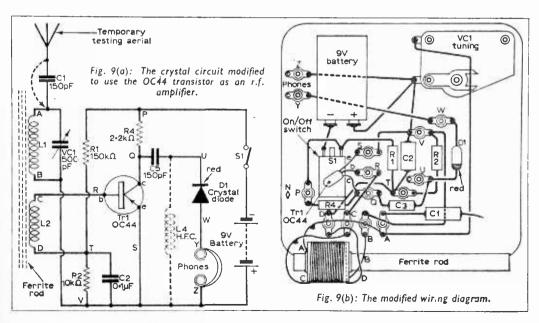
 Disconnect from the phones the lead which goes to R4. Connect this lead to the switch \$1

2. Remove entirely the other phone lead.

Remove both ends of the coil L2 (plastic-covered leads), then connect the knotted end to tag "C" and the other end to tag "D".

 Disconnect from the base of Tr the lead which goes to D1. Connect this lead to one phone terminal.

5. Connect the other phone terminal to the rotor of VC1.



- 6. Connect C3 (150pF) between the collector of the transistor and the red end of the diode.
- 7. Join coil tag "C" to the base of the transistor.
- 8. Join coil tag "D" to the junction of R1, R2 and C2 (at tag T).

#### Testing the R.F. Amplifier

The circuit is now as in Fig. 9 (without L4) and the wiring should all be carefully checked. The aerial is placed on tag "A", the lead earth on tag "B" and the ferrite rod moved almost completely out of the coil. The Light Programme should now be heard, heavily damped over most of the scale. If the aerial is removed from C1 the station will be very weak but should be tunable with the ferrite rod positioned midway in the coil.

The r.f. choke L4 is next made and temporarily connected.

#### Making the R.F. Choke

An ordinary 4in. coil former with dust-iron slugs is required. Four pieces of 4in. rubber tube are then cut as shown in Fig. 10 and they are slid over the former to make slots. Some fine wire, the gauge of which is not critical, is then wound on, all in one direction. so that every slot has exactly 200 turns in it. If there is room in the slots it is advantageous to put on 300 turns but the number of turns in each slot must be the same. The ends of the wires are scraped clean and taken to tags which are conveniently fitted to screws used for fixing the choke.

#### Fitting and Testing the Choke

The receiver is working as explained with the circuit of Fig. 9. The r.f. choke is now wired temporarily between the red end of the diode and the rotor of the tuning capacitor. The volume of the receiver will now be as loud as it was when the OC44 transistor was employed as an a.f. amplifier. Tuning will be sharp and adequate. Only in very strong signal areas, however, will the receiver work without an aerial.

The choke is now fitted carefully, using tags U and V. This will automatically put it in circuit if the coil ends go also to these tags.

#### Combined A.F. and R.F. Amplifier

The next stage in the development of this receiver is the conversion to "reflex operation".

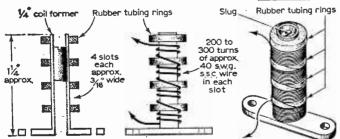


Fig. 10: Winding details of the r.f. choke, L4.

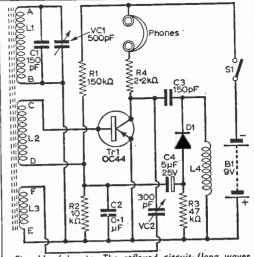
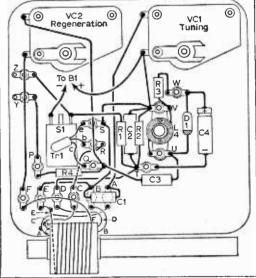


Fig. IIa (above): The reflexed circuit (long waves only) with reaction.

Fig. 11b (below): The wiring of the regenerative receiver.



This means that the transistor Tr1 will function as an r.f. amplifier as well as an a.f. amplifier.

The operative circuit will be as in Fig. 11 (except that VC2 and L3 will not initially be connected. L1 tunes to the desired station; it is transformer-coupled to L2 which feeds r.f. into the OC44 transistor. The amplified r.f. is "choked" off by R4 and the phone windings (these act as a r.f. choke) and is thus forced

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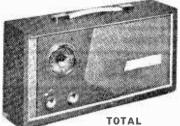
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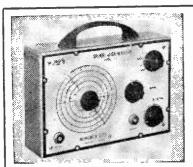
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The OC44 transistor amplifies these audio vibrations but they cannot pass the small capacitor C3 and thus are fed along R4 into the phones. This process is known as "reflexing" and it gives the gain of two transistors with only

one being actually used.

Resistors R1 and R2 form a bias network splitting the battery voltage in the ratio 15:1, giving the coil L2 a potential of approximately 0.5V negative relative to the positive line. This will give a collector current of about 2mA in the transistor.

Later a feedback coil (L3) will be fitted and also a feedback capacitor VC2. These two components together will give reaction and the receiver will then work anywhere in the British Isles without an external aerial.

#### Reflex Wiring (Fig. 11)

The wiring modifications are as follows.

Test the receiver as working at stage of Fig. 9 with the choke L4 fitted.

Remove both phone wires.

- Remove the wire from R4 to switch S1 and connect one from R4 to phones.
- Connect the other phone tag to switch S1. 5. Connect C4 with positive end to diode black.6. Connect negative end of C4 to tag "T".
- Connect black of diode to R3 and other end of R3 to rotor of tuning capacitor VC1 or

tag V.

- The choke L4 is now fitted. This is easy but great care is required to keep the wiring correct. The tags labelled U and V are made the choke terminals (or tags) and may usually be conveniently made the fixing screws as well. Check the wiring carefully with Fig. 11.
- 9. Make sure the small capacitor C3 is between the diode side of the choke and the collector of the OC44 transistor.

#### Testing the Reflexing

The receiver is fixed as before and this time the volume will be so great that in most places the Light Programme will come in at an uncomfortable volume which is easily audible two yards or more away from good phones (reed type). The current taken is still only about 2mA. The tuning will be somewhat flat and unselective.

The choke has an appreciable effect in this circuit; if wound as in the instructions all is well, if a purchased one is used the ordinary TV-type h.f. choke is not suitable and readers must specify that the choke is for medium and long waves only.

#### **Adding Regeneration**

When regeneration (or "reaction") is added the set will work without an external aerial, the ferrite rod being sufficient. The tuning will be more selective but somewhat more difficult, since the variable regeneration control VC2 has some effect on the settings of the tuning capacitor VC1.

For regeneration an additional coil, L3, is wound on the two coils already wound. This is done as shown in Fig. 4, stage 4. (See March issue.) The

directions of winding are most important.

The following wiring is then carried out: 1. Solder aerial reaction coil L3 ends E and F to their respective tags.

Join tag F to reaction capacitor VC2 rotor and tag E to tag B (battery + line).

Wire stator of VC2 to the collector of the OC44.

Wire spare end of C1 to tag B.

Inspect carefully for any shorts, especially between tags for anchoring the aerial coil connections.

These connections are already shown in Fig. 11.

#### Testing with Regeneration

No aerial is required. Place the ferrite rod in the coil and switch on. Adjust VC1 so that the vanes are fully opened and then close VC2 until oscillation at audio frequency is heard. If it is not then something is wrong. The trouble in this event may be due to a poor, insensitive transistor or the r.f. choke L4 may be at fault. The direction of the coil windings is all-important. Remember, the aerial is directional.

Assuming oscillations are heard, reduce the capacity of VC2 until they just cease. This point is the most sensitive and when tuning VC1 the reaction control VC2 must be constantly adjusted so that the oscillations are just on the point of commencing. This will take some getting used to as VC2 is not a volume control but a sensitivity

control. The Light Programme will come in at good strength (say three times as loud as a crystal set with a long aerial), although no external aerial is

With this station tuned in VC1 will be about halfway out and VC2 may be anywhere, but we want now to get the reaction adjusted for optimum ease of adjustment. This is performed as follows: Fully close VC1 and adjust VC2 until oscillation just occurs. If this occurs with VC2 nearly fully in all is well. On the other hand, if this control is opened to any great degree then one turn at a time must be taken off L3 (the last coil wound) until oscillation occurs only when VC2 is almost fully in. In this way the reaction adjustment will be found to be much finer, steadier and easier.

The long wave section is now complete. The receiver should now be thoroughly tested as working and then every wire and component should be laid out carefully and methodically so that further modifications may be carried out without any

mishaps to the part already done.

Some younger readers may feel that they have done enough for now and the unit may now, if desired, be housed in a plastic sandwich box and it will give good service in this way.

#### How the Reaction Works

The r.f. oscillations are choked off after leaving the collector of the OC44 by R4 and the phone windings, some pass C3 to the diode and are rectified but some pass through VC2 to the feedback coil L3. Here, provided the coil is wound the correct way, magnetic coupling will feed additional r.f. into L2 additional, that is, to the r.f. being fed into L2 by l.1 (and the ferrite rod). If L3 winding direction is correct the r.f. will be in phase (will increase amplification), but the reverse is also true. The number of turns suggested for L3 will suit the worst OC44 but a good one will probably only need five or six turns. The less the better as long as feedback is sufficient, since the less turns on L3 the less the tuning of L1 will be affected.

#### **Adding Another Transistor**

The receiver is now as shown in Fig. 11. It is proposed now to fit a second transistor, a

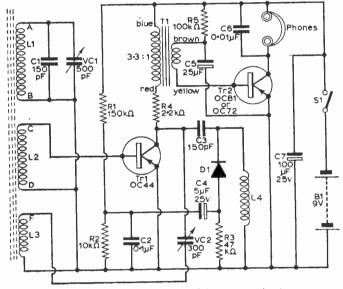


Fig. 12: An amplified version of the reaction circuit.

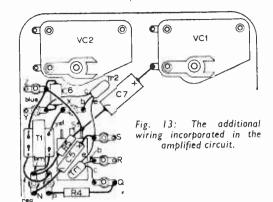
type OC81, as shown in Figs. 12 and 13.

The audio frequency transformer T1 is fairly critical and the correct one should be obtained and fitted through the two holes indicated in Fig. 1. (Radiospares type T/T3, ratio 3.3:1.) The tags are soldered to a thick wire as shown in Fig. 2(b)—see March issue.

#### Wiring the OC81

The circuit of Fig. 12 is now to be completed, the new wiring being shown in Fig. 13,

The lead from R4 to the phones is removed entirely and the red transformer lead attached to



this resistor. The other phone tag is left wired to the switch and the blue transformer wire is also soldered to it. The yellow lead is soldered to the tag marked "X" and it must be checked that this tag is not fouled by the capacitor

vanes when they open.

The brown lead is soldered to a small tag labelled "N" and is coupled to the switch via R5. From the "N" side of R5 connect C5 with the positive end to the emitter of the OC44. Connect C6 across the phone terminals. Carefully sleeve the leads of the OC81 and solder the emitter to the emitter of the OC44, the base to tag "X" (yellow transformer lead) and the collector to the open-circuit phone tag. Check that the circuit complies with Figs. 12 and 13.

#### Testing the Amplifier Circuit

The phones and battery are reconnected and on test the receiver will now be much more powerful and Droitwich should be heard easily with the phones laid on the table. Remember to set the reaction control almost on the point of oscillation. If a milliammeter is available the current should be about 8mA, but this is not very critical as long

as it is not creeping up. Good volume can be obtained with a current of only 3mA and adjustment of this current is possible by carefully altering the value of R5. If it is made of lower resistance the current will increase, not necessarily with any increase in volume. Good results with low consumption of battery current may be obtained with R5 at  $200 k\Omega$ .

Check now that the vanes of VC2 cannot foul the OC81 leads.

In the concluding part of this series next month, the receiver circuit will be modified, once again, to include medium as well as long waves in its coverage.

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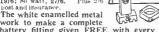
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2.	3/3	3/8	4/1	4/6	4/11	5/4	5/8	6/2	6/5	7/-	7/5
3.	3/11	4/6	5/2	5/9	6/5	7/-	7/8	8/3	8/8	9/6	10/1
4.	4/6	5/4	6/2	7/-	7/10	8/8	9/5	10/4	10/10	12/-	12/10
5,	5/2	6/2	7/3	8/3	9/9	10/1	11/3	12/5	13/1	14/6	15/6
6.	5/9	21-	8/3	9/6	10/9	12/-	13/2	14/6	15/3	1:/-	18/3
7.	6/5	7/10	9/4	10/9	12/3	13/8	15/1	16/7	17/6	19/6	20/11
8.	7/-	8/8	10/4	12/-	13/8	15/4	17/-	18/8	15/8	22/-	23/8
9.	7/8	9/6	11/5	13/3	15/4	17/-	18/10	20/9	21/11	24/6	26/4
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#### A MEETING GROUND FOR THE RADIO ENTHUSIAST

SIR.—Every month your magazine devotes a page to the activities of the amateur radio societies. As readers will have noticed, much of the activity is concerned with what we pithily refer to as "ham" radio and the impression is that club members are a bunch of technically informed gentlemen with a good deal of expensive and complicated equipment. There is, however, a huge army of radio enthusiasts throughout the country who regularly subscribe to P.W. but who are deterred from joining the local radio society because of the fear that their lack of technical knowledge would deprive them of the enjoyment of full participation.

For them, the more novice yet nonetheless enthusiastic readers of this journal, there are in most districts, particularly in London and the bigger towns, the local Evening Institute which provides classes in radio and television. There are, of course, special courses organised by Technical Colleges for those with the serious intention of taking up radio as a career, but the general Institutes hold classes for the radio enthusiast who

regards his interest as his hobby.

The accent of these classes is on the pratical side and those who attend are encouraged to build equipment or even to take along their own faulty receivers so that they can be shown how to repair them.

The feature of these radio classes which should be especially attractive to young P.W. readers, is that they provide an organised meeting ground for all who are interested in practical radio and who wish to enlarge their knowledge of their favourite hobby in a social atmosphere.—H. NAYLOR CALEY (London).

#### POCKET SIGNAL INJECTOR CASE

SIR.—Last year I began construction of the Pocket Signal Injector by Mr. R. W. Kneeshaw, described in the July issue of P.W. All the parts were easy to obtain, but for one item—the penlight torch case. I searched every Woolworth store in Cardiff only to be told that it was out of stock and would not be renewed.

Now again, I am unable to obtain the same case for the Pocket Signal Tracer which appeared in the March '64 edition. I would therefore be glad of your advice in this matter.—G. L. Davis (Gabalfa,

Cardiff).

SIR.—With reference to the availability of the penlight torch cases specified in my articles on the Pocket Signal Injector and Signal Tracer, it

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 commercial or surplus equipment. We cannot supply alternative details for receivers described in these pages. WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO ANSWER QUERIES OVER THE TELE-PHONE. If a postal reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope must be enclosed with the coupon from page iii of the cover.

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

does appear that Woolworths no longer sell these but I suggest that an alternative "penlight" casing that could easily be adapted, is readily obtainable from Boots Chemists.

In my opinion this case would produce an even more professional looking unit than the original. No circuit alterations are required but, because of its slightly greater length, the inner chassis of either unit would have to be slightly longer with the width remaining the same. This, of course, will present no special problems. A slightly modified method of attaching the probe tip may also have to be evolved, but again this should not prove difficult for the constructor.

The Boots case also has the advantage of a pushbutton on/off switch incorporated at its end, this being a great improvement on the original.

I trust that this information will prove useful to any of your readers contemplating the construction of either of these units. — R. W. KNEESHAW (Bristol 6).

#### MODE OF OPERATION

SIR.—Being interested in transistor gadgets, I recently constructed Mr. P. Rowe's Thermostat described in your December 1963 issue. I find this device very sensitive, but the mode of operation is the reverse of that given in the text, i.e. a rise in temperature causes the relay to operate. I therefore suggest that a relay with normally closed contacts be used instead of the type specified.—D. H. Cox (Leeds, 17).

[In reference to this letter, the author has verified Mr Cox's remarks and observes that the sentence on page 761 beginning "When the temperature of the sensing transistor Tr1 rises..." should read "When the temperature of the sensing transistor Tr1 falls, ..." A relay with normally closed contacts should, of course, be used.—Ed.]

#### NOT SUCH A GOOD THING

SIR.—At the risk of offending your Scots readers I feel I must, as a music-loving Englishman. protest the suggestion of your correspondent, Mr. J. F. Jameson (April P.W.) that you should publish a bagpipe amplifier design. However, his comments, apart from this, I agree with. Perhaps too much space is being devoted to musical applications of electronics in your pages. I feel there must be other outlets for your contributors who find insufficient inspiration in superhets and radiograms.

Now that your guitar-playing readers have been catered for, how about getting back to conventional designs?—S. D. Stebbings (Bournemouth,

Hampshire).

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

SIR,—I have just acquired a tape recorder and I would like to "tapespond" with readers of P.W. I am interested in learning Esperanto and so would especially welcome tape correspondence from readers with similar interests.—M. L. VAN DE LINDE. 2 Cowie Street. Sidwell, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

SIR.—I would like to hear from readers in any country, who have an interest in electronics and are of my own age—16. I will answer all letters received. — MICHAEL ALKALAY, 37 Prince Street Gardens, Cape Town, South Africa.

SIR,—As a regular reader of P.W. and an enthusiast of transistor circuits. I would like a correspondent of my own age (14) in Great Britain. I will answer all correspondence. — D. Purton, "Mount Pleasant", Pakenham, Victoria, Australia.

SIR,—I am an enthusiast of amateur radio and I would like a correspondent in England having similar interests.—M. Mahadeva Raju, B.Sc., 4 Cubbon Pet, 12th Cross, Bangalore 2, South India.

SIR,—I am interested in radio and electrical service technology and I would like to correspond with radio servicemen from any country. I will answer promptly all letters received.—N. O. AZUBUINE. P.O. Box 359, Port Harcourt, Nigeria.

#### Sir-I would be grateful if any reader could sell or loan me . . .

... the circuit and servicing manual of the Marconi receiver CR 150. If required 1 will return any data by registered mail.—V. SAMMUT, 158 Old Theatre Street, Valletta, Malta.

...the instruction manual for the Eddystone receiver model S.750.—E. 'RAWSTRON, 146 Partington Street, Castleton, Rochdale, Lancashire.

- ... the October and November 1960 issues of P.W. —J. G. WOODLEY, 6 Perry Avenue, Cullercoats, Northumberland.
- ... the February and April 1962 issues of P.W.— J. F. MOYNIHAN, 4 Leeson Park, Dublin, 6, Irish Republic.

E. M. Squire's "Radio Questions and Answers", volume 2, Radio Receivers.—Rev. E.A., McCarthy, The Vicarage. Fast Ruston, Stalham. Norwich, Norfolk, NOR 18Z.

... the issues of P.W. dealing with the No. 19 Set.—J. F. Rowles, 5 Tower Road, Southsea, Hampshire.

- ....the February 1961 issue of P.W.—A. SLADI. 12 Greywethers Avenue. Swindon. Willshire.
- ... information on the indicating unit type 221.— S. FOWLER, 66 Chiltern View Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
- ... the circuit of the Bendix aircraft receiver type RA 1B.—D. W. HANNANI, 6 Recreation Road, Gorleston. Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
- ... the June 1961 and March 1963 issues of P.W.— C. HARGIS, "Loddington Grange," 13 Knole Road, Boscombe Bournemouth, Hampshire.

... the handbook or any information for the Hallicrafter BC669 transmitter/receiver, and the Bendix BC 433 radio compass.—P. L. MOGFORD. 27 Ynysmaerdy Road. Briton Ferry Neath, Glamorganshire.

... the July, August and September 1963 issues of P.W.—M. J. Chell. 13 Hampden Road, Leicester.

... conversion data for the R1155 receiver.— P. HUGHES, 4 Ingram Road. Beechwood Gardens, Coventry. Warwickshire.

#### **CORRIGENDA**

#### The Maivern Tape Recorder

When this article was published in the July 1963 issue of PRACTICAL WIRELESS, a number of readers found difficulty in obtaining Mullard or G.E.C. ferrite cores LAI and LA2 as specified. At that time it was not possible to recommend a supplier for these components. Now, however, we can inform readers that Henry's Radio keep a complete range in stock.

#### The Euphon

This article was published in the October 1963 issue of PRACTICAL WIRELESS and we bring to the attention of readers the following point which was omitted from the text and which, although perhaps obvious to experienced readers, might not have been apparent to any beginners attempting the construction.

Any other loudspeakers in operation should be cut out to obtain the required effect with the Euphon, the two it feeds *only* being alive.

Another observation which would best be pointed out is that if a high volume is required, the h.f. speaker must not be too small or it will not handle the volume. The l.f. speaker must always be considerably larger than the h.f. unit; but it must also be remembered that too large a base loud-speaker will emphasise bass more than is required.

#### Six-band T.R.F. Receiver

-continued from page 55

distance results. Local transmissions may overload V2, so the gain of V1 must then be reduced by means of VR1.

Quite a good degree of selectivity is obtainable when VR2 is adjusted to bring the detector near the oscillation point. If VR1 and VR3 are both at maximum volume, and VR2 is turned back, to reduce volume, tuning will be flat, and sensitivity poor. It is thus frequently necessary to keep VR2 carefully adjusted so that the detector is nearly oscillating, and reduce gain by VR1. In these circumstances, selectivity is surprisingly good, even for congested s.w. bands, and distant stations can be received.

Loose wiring, or a microphonic valve, can result in a ringing or continous noise commencing whenever the regeneration control is critically adjusted. A screening can over V2 will help prevent this trouble.

If mains interference is bad, a r.f. choke may be wired from the telescopic aerial to chassis. By-pass capacitors (about 0.01 µF) can also be wired in parallel with the mains transformer primary, or from mains leads to earth.

If desired, an external aerial tuner can be constructed. This consists of a suitable coil, with parallel capacitor, tunable to the band required. This tuner unit which is simply wired from aerial to chassis, will be found to increase the volume of weak transmissions, and help eliminate possible breakthrough of strong, local stations.

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**NEWS** 

No. I

APRIL/MAY 1964

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Our object is to produce micro-electronic transistor designs which are not simply interesting to build, but which are well ahead of anything offered by our competitors. They are also technically ahead of any available manufactured products. To achieve these standards, we employ our own highly qualified team of electronic engineers, and when they have contributed their share to a design, we "marry" it to the services of an industrial design group to ensure that our cases are both elegant and functionally right. Developments on these lines are going on all the time in the carefully planned Sinclair programme.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

Presentation of instructions is another Sinclair feature in which we naturally take pride. The experienced builder will readily recognise and appreciate the quality of the circuits shown in the Instructions. Equally important, however, is that *anyone* with or without technical knowledge can build a Sinclair design with 100% success from the word "Go". With the Micro-6, for example, building is actually proving easier than even we believed at first, and already there are thousands of these sets in use.

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How about you, the customer? We insist on your being completely satisfied in all your dealings with us.

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The smallest set in the world

SINCLAIR SLIMLINE

Designed for high-speed assembly

SINCLAIR MICRO INJECTOR PROBE
A better instrument for fault tracing

SINCLAIR AMPLIFIERS SINCLAIR TRANSISTORS CONSTRUCTIONAL BOOKS In fact, we have a special service department run solely to help and advise customers and to correct any errors in assembly which may have inadvertently been made. So you need never feel we will not be interested in your particular problem, no matter how slight it might appear to you. That we are genuinely willing and glad to be of help is something extra, which even we cannot properly convey in the unique guarantee offered in our advertisements. We can only tell you of the hundreds of letters we receive every week from all over the world praising both our service and our designs. We have already published many in our previous ads. Here is another typical example which reached our office in February:—

"I very much enjoyed the four or five hours work necessary to complete it (Micro-6). It was easier to make than many bigger sets and when finished, worked at once, I consider the conception brilliant and I am very pleased with it. I found your instructions very well produced and easy to follow with no puzzles or omissions.

G. J., Nottingham."

More News next month!

On S. J.



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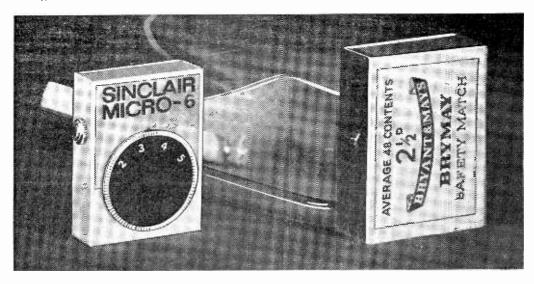
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MALLORY ZM312 Mercury Cells, 1/11 each



## the world's smallest radio

PERFORMANCE BEYOND ALL EXPECTATION

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

The Micro-6 uses Micro-Alloy Transistors (MATs) in a completely new circuit comprising six stages. Two stages of R.F. amplification are followed by an efficient double-diode detector which drives a high gain three stage A.F. amplifier. Powerful A.G.C. is applied to the first R.F. stage to ensure fade-free reception of the most distant station, and tuning covers the entire medium waveband. This is widened out at the high frequency end to provide improved separation of Continental stations. The tiny ferrite rod aerial and earpiece socket were both specially designed for this set. This socket incorporates a switch which operates automatically on inserting the earpiece plug, and switches of when the plug is withdrawn. Listening is by means of the high-impedance lightweight earpiece provided. Quality of reproduction is outstandingly good.

All parts necessary to build this set including case, lightweight earpiece and instructions manual come to **59**/<sub>6</sub>

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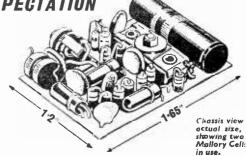
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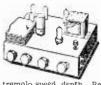
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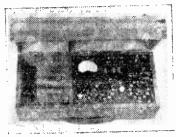
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